

Your Family: Lesson Four

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Every single person should decide what type of spouse they want to marry. They should plan for their future family by picking the right spouse.
- B. To help prepare you for a future family, and to help improve the lives of the married, we are engaged in a study of the family and the various responsibilities of the members of the family.
- C. In lesson three of our study, we showed the responsibilities of the wife to be:
 - 1. Submit to her husband.
 - 2. Love her husband.
 - 3. Be discreet.
 - 4. Be pure (chaste).
 - 5. Be good.
 - 6. Concentrate on her inner person.
 - 7. Do not deprive her husband of his needs.
- D. In this lesson, we will examine the responsibilities of the mother.

I. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MOTHER.

- A. Be a keeper at home. (Titus 2:5)
 - 1. “Keepers at home” is translated from the Greek word *oikouros* which means, “1) caring for the house, working at home 1a) the (watch or) keeper of the house 1b) keeping at home and taking care of household affairs 1c) a domestic” (Strong, J. The exhaustive concordance of the Bible)
 - 2. Other translations:
 - a. “keepers at home” (KJV)
 - b. “homemakers” (NKJV)
 - c. “workers at home” (ASV)
 - d. “working at home” (ESV)
 - 3. While a wife without children bears responsibility in keeping her home, a mother carries a greater work because of the children.

- B. Guide the home. (1 Timothy 5:14)
1. Guide the house” is translated from the Greek word *oikodespoteo*. Which means “1) to be master (or head) of a house 2) to rule a household, manage family affairs” (Strong, J. The exhaustive concordance of the Bible)
 2. Other translations:
 - a. “guide the house” (KJV)
 - b. “manage the house” (NKJV)
 - c. “rule the household” (ASV)
 - d. “manage their households” (ESV)
 3. While the husband is the head of the wife, the wife bears the responsibility of guiding, managing, or ruling the house.
- C. Teach her children the way of the Lord.
1. Consider the pattern taught in Deuteronomy 6:6-9.
 - a. Teach God’s commands diligently to your children.
 - b. Talk of God’s commands when you sit in your house.
 - c. Talk of God’s commands when you walk by the way.
 - d. Talk of God’s commands when you lie down.
 - e. Talk of God’s commands when you rise up.
 - f. Bind God’s commands as a sign on your hand. The commands shall be “as frontlets between your eyes.”
 - g. Write God’s commands “on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”
 2. Consider the importance of teaching your children God’s commands. (Deuteronomy 32:46-47)
 - a. Set your hearts upon the commands of God.
 - b. Teach your children to carefully observe the commands of God.
 - c. Obeying God’s commands is your life. It is not a futile thing to obey God’s commands.
 3. Proverbs - instructions of the mother
 - a. “. . . And forsake not the law of thy mother:” (1:8; 6:20)

- b. "The words of king Lemuel; the oracle which his mother taught him."
(31:1)
- D. Discipline her children.
 - 1. A child left to his own will bring shame. (Proverbs 29:15, 17)
 - 2. Discipline your child because you love him. (Proverbs 13:24)
 - 3. Discipline your child while there is hope. (Proverbs 19:18)
 - 4. The rod of correction drives away foolishness. (Proverbs 22:15)
 - 5. Do not withhold correction. (Proverbs 23:13-14)
 - 6. Correct your child so that you can have rest. (Proverbs 29:17)
 - 7. Do not be gullible, naive, or dupe-able.
 - a. "My child would never . . ."
 - b. "My child does not lie."
 - c. "My child will never be sneaky."
- E. Love her children. (Titus 2:5)
 - 1. Some things like jealousy and selfishness can hinder a mother's love for her children.
 - 2. A mother's love for her children will enable her to do what is necessary to take care of her children.

CONCLUSION.

- A. Every young lady should consider what type of mother she will one day be. Will you grow up to marry, have children, and uphold your God given responsibilities?
- B. For the mothers, how are you doing in your role as a mother? If you find yourself falling short of God's standards, then make the necessary changes today.
- C. If you are a father, then do what you can to help your wife to be the best mother she can possibly be.
- D. In the next lesson, we will consider the responsibilities of the children.

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by John M. Duvall – Lawton, OK