

The Family

We see the family breaking down in front of us. **It causes us great concern because the family is our Future.** It is the basic social unit of society and the nucleus of civilization.

The Family is a masterpiece of God's Creation.

Families are close to God's heart. In fact, they were His idea in the first place. He created Man, then Woman, then He blessed them and told them, *"Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish [fill] the earth"* ([Genesis 1:28](#)).

The Family is the first form of community and government, the first, best and original *"Department of Health, Education & Welfare"*. It is the community in which children learn moral values, ordered freedom and to honor God, all of which are necessary for a free and flourishing culture. Family life is an initiation into life in society."

The family is, in other words, the primary educator of the community: the parents are, and have the responsibility to be, the primary teachers of their children, tasked with passing on the Faith and inculcating Virtue. Authority, stability, and a life of relationships within the family constitute the foundations for freedom, security, and fraternity within society.

Simply put, without the cohesion of the family, there can be no lasting community, and without a lasting community, there cannot be a greater society, to say nothing of civilization itself. **Without the family, the community cannot perpetuate.**

The family is the bedrock of society, and it's proven by this fact: **all over the world, every society is structured by the same pattern.** A man and a woman marry and form a family. This process repeated multiple times forms villages, then regions, and eventually countries.

Children learn everything by watching the examples, or models, of others. The role of the family is to provide good models, having the capacity and responsibility to impact the entire society by its positive example. The Bible teaches us that an earthly father is an earthly example of God, the heavenly Father. The heavenly Father is patient, kind, loving, and always willing to spend time in an intimate, personal relationship with His children.

The earthly father is not only the provider and the rock of the family; he is too, to be a living model of patience and kindness, showing love through his intimate relationship with his children.

"Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching." Proverbs 1:8

The mother is the 'glue' of the family. God gave her the blessings necessary to hold it together - **no matter what!** She nurtures and deeply loves the children and teaches them - virtually everything important.

"There is no role in life more essential and more eternal than that of motherhood," says Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. *"What matters is that a mother loves her children deeply and, in keeping with the devotion she has for God and her husband, prioritizes them above all else."* *"Who can justly measure the righteous influence of a mother's love? What enduring fruits result from the seeds of truth that a mother carefully plants and lovingly cultivates in the fertile soil of a child's trusting mind and heart?"*

In order to fulfill its role in society the father and the mother together teach their children moral values. So that they will mature and pass on these values to future generations making society a safe and happy place for all people to live and enjoy.

The masterpiece that reveals more about God than anything else shows up when God made something called "family"
(Genesis 1:27-28).

Two essential elements of family, marriage, between one man and one woman, and parenthood, reveal God's character like nothing else in Creation. The love between a husband and wife provides a glimpse of Christ's passionate devotion to us. And family does more than reflect God's character. It provides a safe place where children can experience God's love (through their parents) and learn how to love other people.

Our children need to know that God has a special purpose for placing them within a family, so they can experience His love and learn how to love others.

Even Christ himself was born within the context of a family.

"God in the flesh" submitted to an earthly mom and dad to model what it means to honor parents and to benefit from their loving direction. It was within the nurturing care of His earthly family that *"Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men"* (Luke 2:52).

The creation story. [Genesis 1:26-27](#) says, then God said, *'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'* *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them*

If a person never learns obedience in everything at home, he will struggle with disobedience for the rest of his life. A child who is disobedient to his parents will disobey every authority. He will disobey his teachers, he will disobey his boss, he will disobey the law, and he will disobey God, the ultimate authority (cf. [Rom. 13:1-2](#)).

The importance of obedience to parents is seen by it being in the Ten Commandments. It says, *"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you"* ([Ex. 20:12](#)).

In ancient Israel the youth were running the home. The parents were no longer exercising authority over them. However, this was not just happening in the home, it was happening in the rest of society. The youth were rebelling against all authority. No doubt the youth committed protests, riots, lewdness, and all kinds of evil as they oppressed society. The youth were running wild. Similarly, in many neighborhoods in the world today one cannot go out at night because of youth oppression.

Many families today are in deep trouble because they have not been “diligently teaching” their children. Instead, they have left it to the schools, media, museums, national parks and others to do the job.

We’ve often heard, *“I’m not going to shove the Bible down my kids’ throats. When they are old enough, they can decide for themselves.”* The problem is, these parents forget that while they are not teaching their kids the Bible, the world is shoving its evolutionary, humanistic, atheistic or New Age religion down their throats.

It’s impossible to raise kids ‘neutrally’. To do so is to leave them defenseless against the anti-God teaching of our modern-day society. No parent would just let kids “discover for themselves” the dangers of running into a busy street. They would teach, warn and even discipline their children in order to protect them. In like manner, we need to prepare them for the challenges of the day by teaching the truth and exposing the lies of a society that has turned its back on God.

Marriage as being between one man and one woman.

The family must promote this, and that any other marital relationship outside of this is harmful as well as dangerous. Families must discourage abortion because it is taking innocent lives, and each person is of infinite worth. If society aborts its future generations then who will be here to welcome the future?

So we encourage you: *teach your children.*

Children especially need to be grounded in the foundational truth of creation, from both sound biblical and scientific teaching, and in being prepared to withstand the lies of evolutionary, humanistic indoctrination, which is currently so pervasive in our society. Give them that which demonstrates the truth of God’s Word. Pray with them and build relationships with others who can provide a godly example.

Teaching them that while life isn't always fair, God gives us what we really need and the ability to handle it. (Psalm 138:8: *"God will accomplish what concerns me."*)

One of the great secrets of the successful upper class is its dedicated practice of traditional family values. Men and women who get married, stay married and have children within marriage are more likely to be in, and to stay in, the middle or upper class. The upper classes -- liberal and conservative, Democrat and Republican alike -- believe this and practice it. Sadly, they do not often preach what they practice.

If the home is broken, then you can be sure the education system is broken, and the government is broken since the home - the Family - is the foundation of society.

This talk isn't just wishful thinking; this isn't nostalgia; this is reality. If we have stronger families we will have stronger schools, stronger churches, and stronger communities with less poverty and less crime. The family is the linchpin of society, both economically and socially.

A presidential candidate said: *"If you are serious about having smaller, more effective government, then you had better work at getting stronger families."*

"My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother...For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life" (Proverbs 6:20, 23).

Fortunately, parents today have many excellent resources upon which to draw as they teach their children. High-quality books, videos, and [curriculum](#) for all ages are available to help parents educate themselves and their children. In addition, God has raised up many qualified and gifted speakers to teach creation seminars and other programs for kids and adults. Other opportunities include creation camps, tours, [museums](#), [conferences](#), [media broadcasts](#), publications, and websites. We praise God for the wealth of information and the numerous opportunities He has provided.

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