

Review: Godly marriage is a lifelong union between one man and one woman for the purpose of relational oneness and procreation.

- Godly wives are to submissively love their husbands - Col 3:18

- Godly husbands are to sacrificially love their wives - Col 3:19

Children Are Called By God to Be Obedient to Their Parents in All Things - Col 3:20

- As a dependent child, God gives a direct chain of command - Eph 6:1

- As an adult child, God redirects us to a chain of counsel - Eph 6:2-3

- As our parents' children, we always honor and respect them - Eph 6:2-3

God Has Designed That Parents Be Their Children's Primary Shaping Agents - Deut 6:4-9; 4:9; Ps 78:5-7; Eph 6:4

- Parents must first be God-shaped - Deut 6:6

...Work more on being a godly parent than on raising godly children

- Parents must not exasperate their children - Col 3:21; Eph 6:4

...exasperated children are easy prey for Satan - Eph 4:27

- Parents must have a plan:

a) Plan to take care of your marriage - Eph 5:22-23; Col 3:18-19

...visibly and faithfully love your spouse

b) Plan to practice what you preach - Matt 6:1; Col 3:22,23

...resist making "Do as I say, not what I do" your basic defense mechanism

c) Plan to pay attention to them - Deut 6:6-9

...give liberal gifts of time

...give gracious gifts of support

d) Plan to love the reality of your children, not your dream of them - I Cor 13:1-13

...avoid a performance-based acceptance - Ro 15:7

...make it as easy as possible for them to be honest - Eph 4:15; Ga 6:1-2

e) Plan to teach them the law of the harvest - Ga 6:6-8

...set the limits and determine the consequences

f) Plan to take the long term point of view - Prov 22:6; Ro 12:9-13

...lay down your demand for personal and immediate gratification

Life Is Not Really About Having the Perfect Family...

...It Is About Knowing Jesus Christ and Being an Expression of His Life