Begins At Home Genesis 2:18-24

God's First Organization

Man as a race needs companionship. - Some live w/out others for long time but generally need others to thrive

God designed the home (family) to fill that need.

One Man - One Woman - Children to fill & subdue the Earth - Genesis 1:28 Failure to follow God's design led to many problems in society & Church

Husband & Wife

Marriage is divine beginning of family - Matthew 19:4-6 Each has responsibilities to the other - 1Corinthians 7:2-5; Ephesians 5:33

This relationship has priority over all others - Ephesians 5:22-27

Work Together for God - 1Peter 3:1-2,7

Leads To Parenthood Psalm 127:3-5

A Grave Responsibility

"Arrows must be carefully formed and shaped so that they can be shot straight from the bow. Children must also be molded and shaped into the form that can prove a blessing to the parents. This shaping of a personality is one of the greatest responsibilities a parent has, and the character of a child is determined by the success one makes. The arrow will not hit its target if it is bent or warped. Neither will the child reach that goal which will be the end of his parents' dreams for him if he is not straight and true. The arrow cannot hit its mark without the bowman's taking careful aim. The child cannot reach the mark set for him without the careful planning and aim of the parent." ("Good Homes in a Wicked World", pg 67-68 Irven Lee.)

Fathers provide:

Needs - Genesis 3:17-19; 1Timothy 5:8 Leadership & Teaching - Joshua 24:15; Genesis 18:19; Ephesians 6:4 Love & Discipline - Hebrews 12:5-11 Mothers Provide:

Love & Care - Titus 2:3-5 Teaching - Exodus 2:7-9; Hebrews 11:23-26; Proverbs 31:26-29; 2Timothy 3:15 Grandparents also have influence - 2Timothy 1:5

Children Have Responsibilities Also

Submit and obey - Ephesians 6:1-3; Luke 2:51-52 Mature - Grow Up - 1Corinthians 13:11; Hebrews 5:13-14

God-Lead Family Is Crucial To Fruitful Life

Submission To Authority Begins In The Home - Wives - Children Teaching Begins At Home - Parents - Individual Responsibility

Six Things Essential to Good Family Life

- 1. Love, affection and security, preferably with their own parents in their own home.
- 2. Full-time adult supervision and the teaching of self control.
- 3. Parents with whom the child learns he can love on the basis of mutual trust.
- 4. A close sense of family unity where the members of the family eat together, take vacations together, go to Church together.
- 5. Parents who take an interest in the education of their children. (especially spiritual education).

6. Parents who set an example of living in accordance with the principles of the Bible.

Failure in the home/family brings generation without God - Judges 2:7-10