

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of November 5, 2023**

**THEME: "Praise God for Families"**

**THE FAMILY**

**Sunday .....Read Deuteronomy 6:1-10**

*"That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and His commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.* The Creator of the heaven and earth decided to populate His earth with families: a father, a mother, and children. The children then would have their children and so on through the generations of humanity. That was the command given by God in Genesis 1:28: *"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."* The family then became the primary target of Satan, God's enemy. When the Supreme Court decided Bible reading in schools to be unconstitutional, Satan has been highly successful in destroying many families.

**HOME ATMOSPHERE**

**Monday ..... Read Ephesians 5:25-28**

*"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."* The homes in which husbands obey this command of God to love as Christ loved are truly blessed. God's love is sacrificial, unconditional, and inseparable. That is the love God expects husbands to have for their wives. If that occurs, the atmosphere is going to be one of Divine love. That Christlike love for his wife is observed by the children. It is the top responsibility of the father in heeding the command of our Lord given to him in Ephesians 6:4: *"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."* Setting a good example is the greatest responsibility of any instructor, and is the top responsibility of the father in rearing his children.

**PROVIDER**

**Tuesday ..... Read I Timothy 5:7-8**

*"But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."* Basically, God is saying to the man of the house, "get a job." If a man is responsible for bringing a child into the world, God holds him responsible to provide for the mother and child. That means he must get a job and provide for the family. Not to do so according to this truth of God in today's Bible reading, means he is worse than an infidel, one who ignores and rejects God. To reject God is to be an instrument in the hands of Satan, God's enemy. Not to honor God means to work against God. Not good!

**DISCIPLINARIAN**

**Wednesday ..... Read Proverbs 13:20-26**

*"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."* Children need discipline. They need to understand that disobedience has consequences. Not to correct misbehavior is tolerating wrong. Obviously, that is not good! It would simply lead to more and more wrongdoing. The truth is that parents who punish their children for disobedience is showing love. Not to discipline disobedience is actually saying you don't care. God did not tolerate going against His law. When Adam and Eve took of the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, they suffered the consequence of which God had warned them. Now God did, because of His love for humanity, provide a way of reconciliation for sinful mankind, but He did not and will not tolerate doing wrong! Fathers and mothers show love by correcting children for doing wrong. Overlooking wrong is actually negligence!

## HOME MANAGER

**Thursday .....** **Read Proverbs 31:25-30**

*"She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness."* The wife and mother in the home may well be the busiest people in the world. Since the home is the basic unit of a culture according to the plan of God, managing the home is a huge responsibility. God states in Proverbs 31:10: *"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies."* Precious jewelry is nice to have; a virtuous woman for a wife and mother is far better! The home with a loving mother to care for the household is blessed indeed. The home that lacks such a vital need is the road to failure. Think of all that a woman does in keeping house! The task is endless! Just keeping the kitchen and all that goes with it is full time. Putting food on the table is appreciated by all the family. Making sure all the necessary supplies are available is not easy. But then there is the rest of the house. All of that along with the very important responsibility of caring for children. Mothers truly are a blessing!

## CHILDREN

**Friday .....** **Read Ephesians 6:1-4**

*"Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."* God gives two instructions to the children in home: obey and honor your parents. I see these two commands as a progression. Children who are blessed with God-honoring parents have a beneficial start in their lives: to be taught the ways of God. Obedience means to do as you are told; not to do so is disobedience. That is not only disobeying parents, but is also disobeying God! As a child matures into late childhood and then adolescence, he or she moves from the obligation of obedience to that of honoring the father and mother. Obeying means to do as told; honor means to do as the parents want without being told. That is a sign of maturity! Children who please their parents by doing the right thing without being told are showing that they are assuming responsibility, a true sign of maturity. Their parents are most fortunate to have sons and daughters do the right thing without being told what to do. More importantly, God is pleased! That is the better of both worlds; honoring parents and honoring God! Children who obey and honor their mother and father provide a healthy atmosphere for any home. The best way to show love is to be obedient and honorable!

## GRANDCHILDREN

**Saturday.....** **Read Proverbs 17:6-10**

*"Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their father."* The extended family is added blessing to parents, to have grandchildren! That is an extension of the family heritage, and the heritage of God according to what we read in Psalm 127:3: *"Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."* It is a rich blessing to have children, and a precious added blessing to have grandchildren and great grandchildren. The Bible reading for today compares having grandchildren to wearing a crown of glory. So it appears that the grandfather and grandmother are a king and a queen from God's viewpoint. Not only is that a wonderful privilege, it is an awesome responsibility. The family tree is a wonderful work of our Creator and our loving Heavenly Father! Families truly are the most important part of a culture. Making them a primary target of the devil. It is so important for families to do things God's way. Worshiping together is a real plus!