

DAILY DEVOTIONALS - WEEK OF MAY 5, 2024

THEME: "Marriage: God's Plan"

ROMANCE

Sunday Read: Proverbs 31:10-21

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies." The man who finds the woman described in Proverbs 31, the Bible reading for today, is indeed a very fortunate man. The goal for any home ought to be to honor God, the Creator of families and homes. To establish a home and family that pleases God, it must be a God-fearing man and a virtuous woman. The value placed on such a home is priceless, as pointed out in Proverbs 31. Children raised in such a home with God-fearing parents are very fortunate. They get off to a good start in life! Young men looking for a lifetime partner should look for a woman of faith in God and His Word!

CREATION OF HUMANS

Monday Read: Genesis 1:26-28

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 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." One of the instructions God gives to man and woman at the time of His creating them was to have children. God chose to populate His earth by establishing homes with a father and mother. The home is the basic institution in society. Good homes make solid nations! God gave the man and the woman the responsibility to manage His earth. By His inspired Holy Scriptures, God has given the man and woman instructions for taking that responsibility. To read and practice Biblical principles is doing it right. To ignore Holy Scriptures is to fall prey to God's enemy, the devil!

NEW FAMILIES

Tuesday Read Genesis 2:22-25

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife." The instruction God gives sons and daughters is to establish their own families when they become of age. Leaving father and mother is not abandoning them, but is establishing a new home for the glory of God. It is extending the family, and parents then become grandparents and subsequently great grandparents. Families are extended in that continuing intimate relationship. Generations that stay true to God and His Word bring honor and glory to their creator! Homes truly are the foundation of our culture.

ROLE OF THE HUSBAND

Wednesday Read: Ephesians 5:25-28

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Love is the foundation of the home!" That begins with the love a husband shows toward his wife. It should be the love that Jesus shows toward the Church. The love of Christ is a sacrificial, unconditional, and inseparable love. Jesus left the bliss of heaven to come to earth and pay the penalty for our sins. Our imperfections did not hinder the love of Christ for us and nothing can separate us from the love of Christ as we read in Romans 8:38-39: *"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

MOTHERS

Thursday Read: Proverbs 31:25-30

"Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." The sacrificial, unconditional love of a mother for her husband and children results in their happiness. Nothing is too hard for a mother in making the lives of those in the home enjoyable. From cleaning and cooking to caring for all of the needs of her family. The home with a mother who understands she is on a divine assignment is blessed indeed. No matter whether it is day or the middle of the night, mothers are there. No wonder God said that "it is not good for man to be alone." Children with a loving mother and caring father are blessed indeed.

PROPER RELATIONSHIPS

Friday Read Hebrews 13:1-4

"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." Intimacy in relationships are reserved and required for marriage. Those couples who engage in intimacy that is reserved by God for marriage, are living in defiance of God's law. This has become prevalent in the American society since the daily Bible reading was removed from public schools by an infamous Supreme Court ruling in 1963. Unfortunately a lot of our children live in single parent homes without a father. Now our nation is suffering the consequences of that decision. Our nation needs God and the Bible.

CHILDREN

Saturday Read Psalm 127:1-5

"Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." The family is God's plan for extending His heritage. We often hear of the family heritage, those memorable experiences of previous generations. In this Church Age, those who have accepted Jesus personally as Savior are considered God's family as noted in John 1:12: *"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."* It then becomes the responsibility of Christians to perpetuate God's heritage. We

benefit from reading about the lives of those heroes of the faith of whom we read in the Bible!