

# L14 | Divine Institutions | Institution of Family Pt. 2 | Eph. 6:1-4

## I. Intro/Review:

- Initial Observations of Family
- The Honor of Family

## II. Preview:

- Reasons to Have Children
- The Roles within Family
- The Responsibilities of Roles

## III. Sermon:

### • **Reasons to Have Children**

- Of course we need to be mindful of this when one is burning - 1 Cor. 7
  - Remember the third purpose of marriage is to avoid fornication; yes, such burning shouldn't neglect the potential and natural fruit of that due benevolence which isn't simple fleshly gratification, but a child.
  - Abortion for the believer is not a viable option for this lack of consideration whether in fornication or within marriage.
    - Abortion - the slaughter of your own child is a sin. It is a sin Christ bore on the Cross, but in view of the Cross we are called to lay down our life for those in need, not take the life of those in need.
    - Abortion is the common remedy for many when it comes to fornication or the lack of readiness of even those married. It is selfish - for the unbeliever promotes fornication without consequence and for the believer promotes a lack of discernment and responsibility for one's actions.
  - The conception of a child trumps any lack of readiness and one or a couple in this situation should seek Christ within the 9 month window on the glory of children and how to bring them up.
  - It is best to have children in marriage as God ordained and instituted. Yet, it is better to have a child if conceived in fornication, then to abort that child. All the blessings of that child are not granted based upon the sinfulness or righteousness in which that child was conceived. It is better to have the child and give it over to adoption than to abort that child. It is better to have that child and be in poverty than to abort that child.
- Ungodly reasons

- Tax credits - make money off my children
  - 2 Cor. 12:14-15
- Bring me satisfaction (temporary - usually the baby stage), then are a burden
- Will keep my marriage together - shouldn't bet on a child, but seek Christ
- It is what we do as a married couple - should have understanding
  
- Godly reasons
  - God has ordained husband and wife the capacity to have children (Gen. 1:28)
  
  - Children are the fruit of oneness and represents that oneness within marriage (Gen. 1:28)
    - The fruit of love - persons to pass on and carry out godly love to
    - We learn more about love - Eph. 5:1-2
  
  - As God's delight and pleasure are in His Son, so is delight, pleasure, and happiness in children (Ps. 127:3-5; Jn. 16:21)
  
  - Children are an heritage of the Lord (Ps. 127:3-5)
    - Children are intended for the Lord - hence Christians ought to be the most considerate of having children
    - A family ought to become not just where a few people share the same space, but a small church
  
  - Children grown are godly helps and benefits to their parents (1 Tim. 5:8)
  
- **The Roles within Family**
  - Parents - Father and Mother
  - Children - Sons and Daughters
  
- Parents
  - Relationship between the two - parents represent God to their children
    - Paul represented this toward believers
      - 1 The. 2:7-13
      - 2 Cor. 12:14-15
  
  - Comparison to the institution of business and marriage
    - God is the first cause and initiator (Creator) man and woman the responder
    - The husband is the head and initiator and the wife the responder in marriage
    - The parents are the head and initiator and the children the responder in family
  
- Children
  - Are the weaker vessel in this relationship - weaker physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually.
  - Many parents presume equality with their children; however, they may be equal in regards of being man and woman - developmentally they are not.
  - God has taken on the education of His creatures and has enlisted parents to be agents in that education.
  - Children are the responders learning from their parents image and tutelage.
  - Children's minds and hearts are the pristine environment for the knowledge of

God and yet because of the dew of their youth are most susceptible to danger.

- Children to youth (young) - through subtility to think there is better than what parents offer

- **Responsibilities of each role**

- Children - honor and obey - through honor and obedience you grow up
  - Eph. 6:1-3
  - Pro. 1:7-9
  - Heb. 12:5-8
- Parents - nurture and admonition (loving care and teaching)
  - Deut. 4:1, 9-10, 6:1, 7, 11:19
  - Pro. 22:6
  - Eph. 6:1-3
  - 2 Cor. 12:14-15
  - 1 The. 2:7-13

#### IV. Conclusion:

- Details within each role
  - How do I love my child(ren)?
  - What do I teach them?
  - How do I teach them?
  - Why do I obey my parents?
  - My parents are old fashion why should I honor them?
- Parents - to nurture and admonish
  - Fathers and mothers
- Children - to honor and obey
  - Sons and daughters