

THE COMMITMENTS OF A FAITH-FILLED FAMILY

Family Matters – Part 3

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“But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” (Joshua 24:15, NIV)

FAITH-FILLED FAMILIES ARE BUILT ON...

1. THE COMMITMENT OF SECURITY.

“Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” “Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?” Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”” (Matthew 19:3–9, NIV)

““For I hate divorce!” says the LORD, the God of Israel. “To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. “So guard your heart...”” (Malachi 2:16, NLT)

Why marriage matters...

- GOD CREATED IT (GEN 2:18)
- JESUS CELEBRATED IT (JOHN 2:1)
- THE CHURCH ILLUSTRATES IT (EPH 5:23)
- THE LORD AUTHENTICATES IT (MAL 2:14)
- SCRIPTURE VENERATES IT (HEB 13:4)

“Marriage should be honored by all...” (Hebrews 13:4, NIV84)

ACTION: COMMIT TO MARRIAGE

2. A COMMITMENT OF UNITY.

“...Outdo one another in showing honor.” (Romans 12:10, HCSB)

“Don’t do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble towards one another, always considering others better than yourselves.” (Philippians 2:3, GNB)

“Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.” (Ephesians 4:3, NLT)

“Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” (Colossians 3:13–15, NIV84)

ACTION: COMMIT TO PROGRESS

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3. A COMMITMENT TO PURITY.

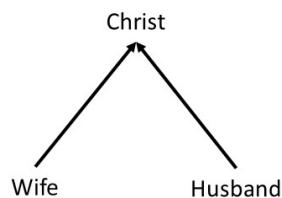
“But in order to avoid sexual sins, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.” (1 Corinthians 7:2, GW)

“...Guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. God draws a firm line against casual and illicit sex.” (Hebrews 13:4, The Message)

“...Let her affection fill you at all times with delight, be infatuated always with her love.” (Proverbs 5:19, RSV)

4. A COMMITMENT OF MATURITY.

“And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” (Ephesians 5:21, NLT)



“So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” (Ephesians 5:33, NLT)

ACTION: FAMILY DEDICATION CLASS

LAST THOUGHT:

Faith-filled families are built one COMMITMENT at a time.

RESOURCES:

His Needs, Her Needs: Building an Affair-Proof Marriage – Willard Harley
Love & Respect – Dr. Emerson Eggerichs
Sacred Marriage – Gary Thomas