

OUR IMPERFECT FAMILY OVERCOMING FAMILY DYSFUNCTION

Pic of Cash

1. I BELIEVE THE ONE WHO DESIGNED FAMILY SHOULD DEFINE FAMILY.

Genesis 1:26 (NIV) Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness..."

Genesis 2:18 (NIV) The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Romans 12:2 (MSG) Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Matthew 19:3–5 (NLT) ³Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: "Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?" ⁴"Haven't you read the Scriptures?" Jesus replied. "They record that from the beginning 'God made them male and female.' ⁵And he said, 'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.'

2. I BELIEVE THAT MY MARRIAGE MUST BE BUILT ON THE FIRM FOUNDATION OF GOD'S WORD IF IT'S GOING TO SUCCEED.

Matthew 7:24–27 (NKJV) "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

HOW TO BUILD YOUR FAMILY TO LAST

- 1) **SURRENDER YOUR LIFE AND FAMILY TO THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS AND HIS WORD.**
- 2) **TRUST GOD AS YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER TO MEET YOUR NEEDS AND TO CARE FOR YOU.**

Matthew 6:24-32 (NKJV) “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.”

- 3) **THINK ABOUT THE GENERATIONAL EFFECTS OF YOUR BEHAVIOR.**

Proverbs 13:22 (NKJV) A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

Deuteronomy 5:9–10 (NKJV) “For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.”

- 4) **KEEP YOUR FAMILY IN A BIBLE-PREACHING AND BELIEVING CHURCH WHERE THEY CAN BE GROUNDED SPIRITUALLY AND BUILD STRONG RELATIONSHIPS.**

Hebrews 10:24–25 (NKJV) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

3. THE BEST GIFT THAT I CAN BRING TO YOU IS A HEALTHY ME.

Proverbs 19:3 (NIV) A person's own folly leads to their ruin, yet their heart rages against the LORD.