



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

October 24, 2010

WISDOM

(Competent In Life's Relationships)

desert breeze community church

“Family”

Individual wholeness makes for healthy marriage relationships. As the marriage goes so goes the family and as the family goes so goes society. The ills of our society are rooted in the family (marriage). We will look at the basic principles of family life. There is something for everyone here. (Pro. 24:3-4)

MARRIAGE:

Proverbs 5:15-19 (Gen. 2:24-25; Eph.5:21-33)

- See its Potential** v15 “Cistern” = Heb. (bore) a pit hole (a hole in the ground for water or a prison).
- Make it a Priority** vv16-17
- Establish its Permanence** v18 (Pro. 2:16-17) The wedding ceremony is not a declaration of present love but a promise of future love.
- Pursue it with Passion** v18-19

PARENTS:

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

- Start Early.** (Pro. 19:18; Pro. 13:24; 22:15) “Child” = Heb. From newborn to marriageable age. “Old” = Heb. Root is bearded or chin (boy who starts growing hair on his chin).
- Stay Consistent** with each Child’s Uniqueness. (Prov. 20:11-12) “In” = Heb. In keeping with, in accordance to something. “Way” = Heb. Road or path (metaphorically it is a God given “characteristic”).
- Strategically Balance** Love and Limits. (Prov. 13:24, 29:15, 23:13-14) “Train” = Heb. Root originally referred to “the palate, the roof of the mouth, the gums.”

CHILDREN:

Proverbs 23:22 Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

- As a Child/Youth, I honor my parents by obeying and respecting them.**
- As an Adult, I honor my parents by affirming and not abandoning them.**
 - Cultural Symbols** - Place at the table, special days, letting them speak first in certain situations, asking for their counsel.
 - Positive Signs** – Let your parents see themselves reproduced in you. Any place you can say – “I got that from you and its good.”
 - Don’t Stereotype** – cut them some slack people can change.
 - Fresh Start** – parents aren’t perfect, forgive them.

Proverbs 20:20 If one curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in utter darkness.

QUESTIONS:

What if I have a difficult spouse? Jesus loves us not because we are lovable but in order to make us lovable to the degree you see this is the degree by which you will be able to reenact His love to your spouse.

What if I desperately want to get married? If you’re not content in Christ right now, you won’t be content in marriage, it will only complicate it. His love is better than life and that includes marriage (Ps. 63:3). A great marriage is only a dim glimpse of the satisfaction we can find in Jesus Christ.

What if I am inordinately attached to the success or happiness of my kids? Idols can’t be removed only replaced. When you find yourself overreacting to your child’s failure with extreme rules or to your child’s unhappiness with smothering love repent and demote your child and make Christ the ultimate in your life.

What if I either resent or want to over please my parents (alive or not)? Through Jesus Christ my ultimate brother I have come into the ultimate Family and now have the approval of the ultimate father.

Come home to God the Father through the Cross of Jesus Christ and you’ll always be home regardless of what is happening in your life.



Growing

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- 1) How does individual wholeness make for healthy marriage relationships? As the marriage goes so goes the family and as the family goes so goes society. How are the ills of our society rooted in the family? What vision does Prov. 24:3-4 have for the family?
- 2) Read Proverbs 5:15-19. Using poetry and imagery of water in a desert country the writer is saying the marriage relationship has what kind of potential? What should the priority of a marriage relationship be? How does permanence and passion impact the marriage?
- 3) Read Proverbs 22:5. How important is a healthy marriage relationship for the training of a child? Why is it important to start early in the training of a child? Why is it important to keep the training consistent with the child's God given temperament and balance it with love and limits? What happens with imbalanced love/limits?
- 4) Read Proverbs 23:22. How does a child/youth honor their parents? Review the list and identify ways you could better honor your parents as an adult. What is the warning Proverbs 20:20 gives us?
- 5) Review the questions at the end of the study. What would you add to the answers given to help those who are struggling? What does it mean that if I come home to God the Father through the Cross of Jesus Christ and I'll always be home regardless of what is happening in your life? Make it your prayer!