
SERMON OUTLINE

Building a God-Focused Family

Selected Proverbs

- I. Focused relationally on God: A family is blessed when husband and wife pursue God.
- A. Godly wisdom is the foundation of a family (24:3-4).
 - B. The Man who pursues God brings God's blessing to His wife and family (3:33; 12:7; 14:11; 17:13)
 - "Fears the Lord" (14:26; 20:7)
 - He doesn't bring trouble to his family (11:29; 15:27; 17:13)
 - C. The Woman who pursues God brings God's blessing to her husband and family.
 - "Fears the Lord" (31:30; 14:1)
- II. Focus relationally on each other: A family is blessed when husband and wife are gracious.
- A. His and Hers: Relational traits essential to marriage
 1. Prioritizes relationship over wealth (15:16,17; 17:1)
 2. Honesty (24:26) *So there is trust.*
 3. Grace, not grudges (10:12;12:16; 17:9; 19:11)
 4. Gentle, not angry/violent (15:1; 29:11; 30:33) *No fear.*
 5. Words that heal not hurt (12:25; 15:4; 18:13-14) *Emotionally healthy and positive.*
 - B. A sensitive husband praises his wife – not criticizing her (5:18; 31:28-30). *So she is encouraged.*
 - C. An agreeable wife is not "quarrelsome/nagging" (19:13; 21:9; 25:24; 21:19; 27:15-16) – *Or he will feel exasperated, hopeless and withdraw.*

**A husband withdraws emotionally when he knows he'll be criticized and disrespected. *A wife shuts down emotionally when she is afraid to be open and vulnerable (1 Peter 3:1-7).*