

# CHALLENGING YOU!

## GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE HOME

Many modern homes have failed today because people are either ignorant of or indifferent to God's purpose for the home. Thousands of children are growing up without any discipline and without any moral or religious instruction necessary to make them happy, good, and God-fearing citizens.

In many homes, quarrels and domestic battles go on day after day. Many of these seemingly unsolvable squabbles have led to broken homes. The large number of divorce cases that go through our courts are no longer a surprise to us. We have grown used to them.

When God created Adam and Eve, He established the first home. God's purpose for the home has always been a man and woman living together in true happiness based on faith and love. There must be faith between the husband and wife, full and complete confidence in each other and willingness to stay together during sad times as well as during happy.

Marriages should be made "for better or for worse", and "until death do us part". The Word of God says, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it" (Ephesians 5: 25).

No home which has violated God's purpose has been successful. God demands that the members of the home should live together in unity. His Word says, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2: 24).

When a man and woman learn to live according to God's purpose for them, they do not experience the evils which follow selfish living. Such a home will be a godly one with Christ at the centre. That home will not only be a place where the parents bear one another's burdens, but will also be a place where the children are taught morally and religiously.

To have the true happiness which is God's purpose for the home Christ must be the centre of the home, for He is the source of true happiness. Each person must know Him as Lord of his life, the Controller of the home and the only true Counsellor.

In every Christian home there should be a time when members of the family meet together to read God's Word and to pray. It has been well said that "the home that prays together will stay together".

The father in such a home will not shirk his responsibilities but will willingly do his part as unto the Lord. The mother will remain faithful and loving in any circumstance. The children will obey their parents and learn to trust and obey the Lord.

Such faithful homes are needed in Australia to check the increasing number of unruly and delinquent children that are growing up in our countries. Parents are the keepers of their children and must answer to God one day as to how they have cared for their children. The blood of some delinquent children of today will be required at the hand of their parents. Such parents have ruined the purpose of God for their homes. Because they have neglected their responsibilities, their children have become immoral and ungodly.

God's purpose for the home is to unite each member in mind and spirit. Such a home will house a happy family with parents able to instruct their children to be good, God-fearing citizens. Like Joshua of old, our promise should be, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24: 15).



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