

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

--By George L. Faull

Exodus 20:5-6, "5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me; 6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

The family is the original building block of society; before society, before schools, before government, and even before the Church. In fact, those things are ineffective without the family.

It is my desire to preach to you about how to help your family and this sermon is a result of that desire.

It is a simple sermon that could help you and your family if you can forget me and my faults and shortcomings.

It is difficult to benefit from a preacher of whom you may not be so fond for any number of reasons. Nevertheless, I am going to be speaking the lessons from God's Word.

First of all, let's lay down some groundwork. This sermon will show:

- * Sin has consequences.
- * The wages of sin is death.

- * God visits the sins and iniquities to the third and fourth generation on those who hate Him.
- * As a mother is, so is her daughter; and like father, like son.
- * Big doors swing on little hinges! (Our decisions on little things greatly affect us.)

THE GOOD NEWS IS, THERE IS A SOLUTION TO THESE PROBLEMS AND HIS NAME IS "JESUS".

I wish for you to be happy, well-adjusted, and functional families. I want you to know, however, I could find no perfect family in the Bible. There is no ideal family so we will have to look at ideals. The easiest way is to look at bad examples.

1. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

The wife is like Eve and makes the decisions in the family.

If she forgets that she is the helpmeet, not the decision-maker.

If she forgets that God's divine order is God, Christ, man, and woman.

1 Corinthians 11:3, 9, "3 But I would have you know, that **the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.** 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."

That she argues with her heart, (emotions) not her head (intellect).

1 Timothy 2:12-15, "12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety."

Adam was not deceived, and he was cursed for following her. **The ground was cursed, she was cursed, and death resulted. He blamed her, she blamed Satan and the serpent didn't have a leg to stand on.**

If you do not want a dysfunctional family, men, get back in the driver's seat. At least do not follow her when you know she is wrong.

2. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You are like Cain and think your way of worshipping is up to your own preferences.

Do it your way and go to your own place. God required blood... by faith, not vegetables... by the work of your own hands.

1 John 3:12, "Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous."

Led to death by murder...denied he was his brother's keeper.

Without God, what kind of functioning family did Cain have with his wife and family?

3. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

Your children marry the ungodly, like those in the days of Noah.

Genesis 6:4, "There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown."

When a child of God marries a child of Satan, there will be trouble with your father-in-law.

Pre-flood hearts only imagined evil continually and had no relationship with children or grandchildren.

4. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You're like Godly Noah and bring alcohol into you home.

Genesis 9:20-21, "20 And Noah began *to be* an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: 21 **And he drank of the wine, and was drunken**; and he was uncovered within his tent."

It divided the only family on earth. It made Canaan a servant to all his father's children. All his uncles and their children became idolaters, except Shem.

5. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You join in a One-World Government against God's command to separate so He could raise up a Heavenly Kingdom. (Tower of Babel resulted.)

Genesis 11:4-9, "4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. 5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. 6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people *is* one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. 7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. 9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."

Acts 17:26-27, "26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us."

What were these families like? Confusion...rebellious...idolatrous.

6. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You leave where God led you like He did Abraham and then you move to Egypt for fear of hunger (daily bread).

Genesis 12:10, "And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine *was* grievous in the land."

It created all kinds of trouble due to his lie. He denied his wife. Did he ever have her trust again?

He did it again to Abimelech. Later, his son did as he did.

Pharaoh's gifts to him.... caused marriage trouble, inheritance trouble, and trouble with Lot's herdsman.

You cannot have a "**planned mode of lying**" and be a man of integrity and have the respect of the ungodly and your family. **Genesis 12:11**

7. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You bring another woman into your home.

God has shown us several polygamous families and the dishonesty, distrust, despising, and bartering there is in such a home. Was anyone happy in his home? His relatives? Whom did the Ishmaelites become? Whom did the Midianites become?

You may think polygamy puts the FUN back in "dysFUNctional, but I think not!

8. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You cast your tents towards Sodom, like Lot.

He lost his sons-in-law, daughters, wife, wealth, and witness. His soul was vexed day-by-day at the un-Godly.

Imagine moving to San Francisco, Seattle, Las Vegas, or Chicago. It will affect your family.

9. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You let millennials rule your home, like Lot did his daughters and they think the end justifies the means.

See what liquor did to his daughters. Whom did the children of Ammon and the Moabites become? Enemies of God.

10. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

Your wife tries to be like Sarah or Rebecca and tries to make God's promises come true on their timetable, instead of God's.

Sarah wanted a child and talked Abraham into having a child of Hagar. How did that work out for her? Whom did the Ishmaelites become?

Rebecca made Jacob a coveter, cheat, coward! She never saw him again, nor his wife.

What did the Edomites, Ishmaelites, Ammonites, Moabites and Midianites have in common? God's promised seed's descendants became their enemies. Our mistakes bring enemies to God's people.

11. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

Like Jacob, you play favorites with your children; who favored Joseph. Was that a functional family?

He is fortunate; God worked it out for good. He can do that.

12. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You're proud, jealous, and petty, like King Saul.

How was his relationship with his daughter, his younger daughter, or with Jonathan? David? or how about his wife, his army, or God's priests?

13. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

In idleness you're lusting after other women, like David.

It led to murdering Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, Ammon's death, Absalom's death, Adonijah's death, and David's best friend, Ahithophel's, suicide.

CONCLUSION - Am I not right?

- * Does not sin have consequences?
- * Are not the wages for sin, death?
- * Are not daughters like mothers and sons like fathers?
- * Does not God visit sins to future generations?
- * Don't big doors swing on little hinges?

Can I prove that Jesus is the solution to our sins? Yes!

- * He came to save sinners from their sins.
- * He came to be a ransom for our sins
- * He has made a New Covenant and promises that He will remember our sins no more.

Hebrews 8:8-13, "8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 **Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt;** because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10 **For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:** 11 **And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.** 12 **For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.** 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." Turn to Jesus!

God can take your dysfunctional families and use them to His glory, like He did Joseph.

If you would like this sermon on CD, contact Summit and order sermon #1686.