

BAHRAIN REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

The Family

June 21, 2024

Preliminary

Note: The Family begins with a husband and wife, living in a permanent marriage union

- Having children is a natural consequence of their union

Point: The principal function of the family is the procreation, preservation, and education of children – the primary unit of the society

1. The Biblical Family

Note: The Scripture speaks of the equality of men and women in their relationship with Christ but with specific roles to each in marriage.

- (a) A husband is the head of the wife... Eph 5:23; 1 Cor 11:3

Note: With the example of Christ leading the Church... Eph 5:25-26

Point: A husband's principal duty is to *love* his wife... Col 3:19; Eph 5:28, 33

- A husband should be faithful to his wife... Pro 5:19; Mal 2:14, 15
- Their wives should be respected... 1 Pt 3:7
- Do not be harsh with them... Col 3:19
- A husband should comfort his wife... 1 Sam 1:8
- Their wives should be honored and praised... Pro 31:28-29

- (b) A wife is the principal helper of her husband... Gen 2:18

Point: A wife's foremost duty is *submission* to her husband... Gen 3:16; Eph 5:22, 24; 1 Pt 3:1

- A wife should love, respect, and obey their husband... Titus 2:4, 5; Eph 5:33; 1 Cor 14:34
- The wife is the guardian of her husband's honor... Pro 19:14; 12:4

- (c) Children's duties

Note: Children should love their parents... Gen 46:29

Point: Children should respect and honor their parents... Lev 19:3; Ex 20:12

- They should obey their parents... Eph 6:1; Pro 6:20; 23:22; Col 3:20
- Children, when adults, should provide, where necessary, for their parents, since they have continuing responsibility towards them... Mt 15:5, 6; Mk 7:11-13; 1 Tim 5:4

2. Husband and wife's essential harmony

Note 1: The harmony of husband and wife is essential for the well-being of a family

- Husband and wife must be faithful to one another in their heart as well as physically... Mt 5:27, 28
- To be sensitive and thoughtful of the sexual needs of each other... 1 Cor 7:3-5
- The Sanctity of marriage may be shattered by the corruption of human heart... Mk 7:20-23
- Selfish disagreement, especially as it expresses itself in nagging, ruins harmony ... Pro 19:13; 25:24; 27:15

Point: The disharmony in any area of married life can be disastrous and detrimental to a family's welfare is one of the reasons why a Christian should seek to have a Christian partner... 1 Cor 7:39; 2 Cor 6:14

Note 2: The disobedience of a husband or wife to the will of sin

Point: If one party instructs the another to do something God forbids then the another party is obligated to obey God... Ex 1:15-20; 20:14; Act 5:29

3. Parental Duties to their Children

Note: Parents should love and discipline their children... Titus 2:4; Pro 3:11, 12;

- Husband should provide and save up for their children's welfare... 1 Tim 5:8; 2 Cor 12:14
- The home is to be the wives' primary area of influence and responsibility... 1 Tim 5:14; Titus 2:3-5; Pro 31:10-31
- Parents should know how to give good gifts to their children... Mt 7:9-11
- Parents should educate their children... Eph 6:4; Pro 4:1, 5, 10-12
- They should instruct their children in God's way... Deut 31:12-13; Pro 22:6

4. Common family members duties

Note: The primary duty of members of any family is love... 1 Cor 13; 1 Jn 5:1

- Helpfulness – co-cooperativeness... Pro 18:19
- Mutual forbearance – forgiving of each other... Gen 50:16f; Mt 18:21, 22
- Submission to one another... Eph 5:21
- Concern for unity... Col 3:14
- Worship of God together... Eph 6:4; Ps 78:1-4

Marriage works best and is most reflective of Jesus when each couple is seeking to cooperate with and please the other

Ephesians 5:21