

## FAMILY SAFETY

John 17:12, NIV – *While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.*

- In each church family, one of our priorities should be to protect each other, physically, spiritually, emotionally, with our reputations, and provide an atmosphere of safety
- Within the family we should be able to try anything, knowing that if we make a mistake, we will still be accepted
- We should feel that we can share anything, knowing that it will not damage our relationships with each other

## FAMILY COOPERATION

Ephesians 4:15-16, NASB – *(15) But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, (16) from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.*

- We grow, not through knowledge, but by applying our knowledge as we work together

James 1:22, NIV - *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*

- If you can't apply it, you don't truly know it
- We each have something to give (supply), and we also each have something to receive (being fitted)
- Our motivating foundation is love

## FAMILY WISDOM

Ephesians 3:14-15, NIV – *(14) For this reason I kneel before the Father, (15) from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.*

- When we don't know how to respond to someone else, just kneel before the Father, and simply ask, "How does Father God respond to me, when I'm in this situation?"

# THE CHURCH – THE FAMILY OF GOD

## Part 4 – Family Relationships

David Hibbert – May 15, 2005

### FAMILY HONOUR

1 Timothy 5:1-2, NIV – *(1) Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, (2) older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.*

- Older Men as Fathers / Older Women as Mothers
- Younger Men as Brothers / Younger Women as Sisters
- Our first response to each other, is to honour, and protect

### FAMILY CARE

1 Peter 3:8, NIV – *(8) Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.*

- Harmony (homo-phroe) – harmonious, single-minded, agreeing
- Sympathetic (sum-pathes) – to suffer together with
- Love as brothers (phila-delphos) – brotherly love
- Compassionate (eu-splagchnos) – kind-hearted, tender-hearted, good in the inward parts
- Humble (tapeino-phroe) – humble-minded, courteous

### FAMILY BLESSING

1 Peter 3:9, NIV – *(9) Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with  blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.*

- Blessing (eu-logeo) – to speak well of, praise, to bless, to give a blessing
- Blessing (eu-logia) – receive praise, blessing, gift, bounty

James 2:16, NIV - *If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?*

- Only those who learn how to always bless, will themselves inherit a blessing

## FAMILY REDEMPTION

1 Peter 4:8, NIV – *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

- Love deeply (ek-tenes) – constant love, fervent love, love that keeps being stretched or extended, no matter what
- Love covers (kalupto) – to cover, veil

Galatians 6:1, NIV - *Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.*

- Sin (para-ptoma) – a false step, a trespass
- Spiritual (pneumatikos) – of the Spirit
- Restore (katar-tizo) – to make complete, to prepare, to equip, to train, to mend, to restore, to be fitted or complete according to a plan
- Gently (prautes) – gentleness, humility, meekness, with consideration, to suffer with
- The spiritual are responsible to gently mend, not punish

John 8:7, NIV – *[Jesus said], “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.”*

## FAMILY DISCIPLINE

2 Timothy 4:2, NIV – *(2) Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage -- with great patience and careful instruction.*

- Correct (elegcho) – To expose, convict, reprove, ie. to reveal the error and show the way out
- Rebuke (epi-timao) – To warn, to sternly tell, to mete out due measure, to fix the value or price, ie. to clearly warn of the real consequence, and show to value of changing behaviour
- Encourage (para-kaleo) – To call to one’s side, appeal, comfort, entreat, urge, exhort
- Great (pas) – all, every form, continual, great, full, perfect, whole
- Patience (makrothumia) – patience, long-suffering, long or far reaching passion (not “one strike and you’re out”)
- Careful Instruction (didache) – teaching, instruction, to cause to learn, ie. not just telling, but helping to understand and learn

- Don’t expose a problem unless you are willing to be part of the solution

## FAMILY SHARING

Acts 2:44-45, NIV – *(44) All the believers were together and had everything in common. (45) Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.*

- Together (epi) – together, connected to, embracing, toward
- Common (koinos) – common, common property, unholy (ie. not to be grasped tightly)
- Possessions (ktema) – things acquired by purchase, property
- Goods (huparxis) – things owned but not acquired, subsistence, produce, work of your hands

## FAMILY HONESTY

1 Peter 2:1, NIV - *Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.*

- Malice (kakia) – trouble making
- Deceit (dolos) – deceit, guile, stealth, baiting or making a trap, craftiness, trickery
- Hypocrisy (hupokrisis) – playacting, to pretend, to act as on a stage
- Envy (phthonos) – envy, jealousy
- Slander (katalalia) – evil-speaking, defaming, putting down, being against with your words, gossip

## FAMILY DEVOTION

Acts 2:42, NIV – *(42) They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

- Devoted (pros-kartereo)– To attend constantly to:
  1. The apostle’s teaching – Biblical truth and its application
  2. The fellowship – The church family
  3. The breaking of bread – Transparent and pure relationships due to regular self-examination
  4. Prayer
- We are to be people of the book, people of the family, people of purity, and people of prayer