

Motivation and Discussion

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I. Introduction.

II. Bill's remarks.

A. The home is often a misplaced priority. There are many problem areas.

1. The pastor is likely to have an aggressive personality. The pastor is deeply committed to his work and other responsibilities tend to take second place. The home may become a refuge from responsibilities. The pastor often seeks in vain for patience from those in his home. We ought to seek to be like-minded in the home. (Romans 15:5-6)

III. Downing's remarks.

A. We are motivated when we are turned on. (Ecclesiastes 1:8; Proverbs 27:20)

B. Man has basic needs in order of priority: physiological, safety and security needs, love needs, respect, and fulfillment. (Psalm 37:4)

C. The greatest motivator available is a person's work. The only acceptable reward for a job well done is increased responsibility.

D. We are never satisfied until fulfillment is obtained.

IV. Discussion points.

A. The home relationship is vital to the pastor's ministry.

B. Recreation needs to be brought into proper balance with work for a healthy Christian lifestyle.

C. Does a pastor have a right to have his children make the same sacrifices that he does? Letting family share the responsibility in planning has helped among other things.

V. Problems and solutions summarized.

A. The personal relationship between the pastor and his wife. There is a need to spend time together. Taking a day off and spending time in recreation is ideal. It is also important to pray with one's spouse.

B. Children have a greater need than material things. They need respect and fulfillment. The absence of material needs is often satisfied by the impact that the students make in their schools.

C. Important questions: Is your wife a fulfilled person? To what degree is your wife's fulfillment your responsibility?

Application questions.

1. What problems do you share with the discussion group concerning home and family life?

2. What points did you take away from the discussion that may be helpful in arranging your priorities and taking care of your family?

3. What is your plan? How will you go about implementing the principles you have learned? What goals do you have?
