



**Student Workbook**  
**George Sanchez**

## Introduction

What is a scriptural home? This is a challenging question. In our modern technological society we are bombarded with information on how to get along with our spouses, how to raise our children, how to run a household. Radio, television, magazines and newspapers present interviews with psychologists, psychiatrists and other experts who give us advice on how to live our lives more effectively.

Very few, however, look at this information in light of God's Word. This is the purpose of the new Scriptural Home Seminar - to emphasize and utilize scriptural principles as its basis while blending them with contemporary psychology.

In the new Scriptural Home Seminar you will discover what God's Word, the Bible, says about:

- The Husband's Role
- The Wife's Role
- Communication
- Parent-child Relationships
- The Foundation of a Scriptural Home
- Effectively Dealing with Conflicts

The Scriptural Home Seminar contains twelve messages on six audios, a downloadable workbook and Leader's Guide. The student workbook contains:

- Outlines of the Messages
- Excerpts from Outstanding Articles
- Questions for Discussion
- A Bibliography

The Scriptural Home Seminar offers you an opportunity to share the Christian life with your neighbors or it can be used in your church. The Leader's Guide provides an overview of the course and some helpful suggestions on how to hold a Seminar in your neighborhood. The first message contains the plan of salvation.

This Seminar is the result of numerous seminars held in the U.S. and overseas in both homes and churches. The speaker and author, George Sanchez, has spent many years in counseling and keeps up-to-date on the contemporary developments in this field. While on staff with The Navigators, George Sanchez served as International Assistant to the President. He has presented seminars throughout the world emphasizing biblical principles regarding the family, communication, and interpersonal relationships. A veteran missionary, he served as the first full-time Navigator representative in Latin America.

This material comes to you very prayerfully and carefully prepared. It is my sincere wish that the Lord Jesus Christ be honored in the use of the new Scriptural Home Seminar. Another hope and prayer is that homes and families will be strengthened as interpersonal relationships are re-established and strengthened by the application of scriptural principles. May He bless you in your home and family relationships as you study this material and use you as you seek to minister to others in this way. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

It is a privilege to co-labor with you. "May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 15:5,6).

Sincerely in Christ,



# Scriptural Home Seminar

*George Sanchez*

## Table of Contents

Session 1	<b>The Foundation</b>	4
	God of Plan and Purpose	4
	Jesus Christ – Savior/Lord	4
	Word of God as final authority	5
Session 2	<b>The Husband’s Role</b>	8
	Leader/head – Part 1	10
Session 3	Leader/head – Part 2	12
	Lover	13
Session 4	<b>Love, Differences, Conflicts</b>	16
	Love	16
	Differences between male and female	17
	Resolving conflicts	19
	One of Christ's primary ministries is reconciliation	22
Session 5	<b>The Wife’s Role</b>	23
	Follower/submissive	24
Session 6	Helper/partner	26
Session 7	<b>Communication</b>	29
	Primary Conditions – Part 1	31
Session 8	Primary Conditions – Part 2	32
	Purposes of Communication	32
	Problems in Communication	33
	Principles of Communication	34
Session 9	<b>The Home as the Center of Worship and Ministry</b>	36
	Worship – Part 1	38
Session 10	Worship – Part 2	39
	Ministry	40
Session 11	<b>Parent-Children Relationships</b>	43
	Importance of Parents’ Roles	46
	Consideration – Part 1	47
Session 12	Consideration – Part 2	48
	Correction	48
	Consistency	51
	Conclusion	52
	<b><i>Bibliography</i></b>	54
	<b><i>Leaders Guide</i></b>	58

## **Session 1 - The Foundation**

*Isaiah 61:1, John 1:12, Luke 9:23*

### **I. God of plan and purpose**

Isaiah 14:27

Numbers 23:19

#### A. Delightful or devastating - depends on relationship

##### 1. Positive

I John 3:1

Galatians 4:7

##### 2. Negative

John 3:36

#### B. His plan is personal

Psalm 138:8

Lamentations 3:37

#### C. Based on His character

Jeremiah 29:11

KEY: Jeremiah 29:13

### **II. Jesus Christ – Savior / Lord**

#### A. Personal relationship - not traditional acquiescence

1. His purposes - Isaiah 61:1

2. Recognize/admit need - Jeremiah 17:9

3. Recognize Christ as only solution to need - Acts 4:12

4. Commit life to Christ for His use/glory

Admit Believe Commit

John 1:12

B. Willing submission to His authority - Luke 9:23-25

1. Give up rights to myself - seek His will

Acts 22:10

2. Continual/daily identification

Personal testimony

John 4:39-42

3. Follow Him - ultimate control/choice

"You lack one thing" Mark 10:17-22

C. Foundation for effective home

1. Mutual submission - Ephesians 5:21

2. Mutual willingness for Lord to build - Psalm 127:1

**III. Word of God as final authority**

A. Age of Relativism - compared to what?

1. Sociologists/psychologists - many voices

2. Statement of Jesus - Matthew 22:29

B. Principles for home/family - Ephesians 5,6

C. Authoritative for all areas of need - II Timothy 3:16

D. Final authority in resolving conflicts

*\*Accepting that Jesus is Savior and Lord and that the Word is the final authority is necessary in order for the principles of this Seminar to be effective.*

# Family Quiz

## Test Yourself

Paul Popenoe, of Altadena, California, grand old founder of The American Institute of Family Relations and a pioneer in the field of marriage counseling, has written in his long and illustrious career 18 books and thousands of papers on the subject of marriage.

Of all his writings, however, two of the most popular are quizzes entitled, "Are You the Perfect Husband?" and "Are You the Perfect Wife?"

PARADE herewith reprints both with a scorecard for wives and a scorecard for husbands. Rules for scoring: At the end of each of the following ten questions you will find a set of five scoring figures (0 1 2 3 4). Check the figure which represents your answer to each question, on this basis:

- 0 means "never," "not at all"
- 1 means "somewhat," "sometimes," "rarely," "a little"
- 2 means "about as often as not," "an average amount"
- 3 means "usually," "a good deal," "frequently"
- 4 means "regularly," "practically always," "entirely"

## A Scorecard for Husbands:

1. Do you allow your wife an appropriate amount of the family income, to spend as she chooses, without an accounting? *0 1 2 3 4*
2. Do you still "court" her with an occasional gift of flowers, by remembrance of birthdays and anniversaries, by unexpected attentions? *0 1 2 3 4*
3. Are you cooperative in handling the children, taking your full share of responsibility and also backing her up? *0 1 2 3 4*
4. Do you make it a point never to criticize her before others? *0 1 2 3 4*
5. Do you share at least half your recreation hours with her? *0 1 2 3 4*
6. Do you show interest in and respect for her intellectual life? *0 1 2 3 4*
7. Do you show as much consideration and courtesy to her relatives as you do to your own? *0 1 2 3 4*
8. Do you enter sympathetically into her plans for social activities, trying to do your full share as a host in your own home, and, when a guest in the homes of others, trying to make her appear to the best possible advantage? *0 1 2 3 4*
9. Do you make an effort to understand the peculiarities of feminine psychology and to help her through her varying moods? *0 1 2 3 4*
10. Do you tell her at least once a day that you love her, and act as if you meant it? *0 1 2 3 4*

### **A Scorecard for Wives:**

1. Do you try to make the home interesting, attractive, cheerful, a place of rest and relaxation - devoting as much thought and study to that as you would to a job "downtown?" **0 1 2 3 4**
2. Do you encourage your husband to go out frequently with his men friends, though it means leaving you home alone? **0 1 2 3 4**
3. Do you serve meals that are enticing in variety and attractiveness? **0 1 2 3 4**
4. Do you handle household finances in a businesslike way? **0 1 2 3 4**
5. Do you keep yourself attractive (though not offensively so!) in appearance, in order that your husband may be proud to have everyone know you are his wife? **0 1 2 3 4**
6. Are you a "good sport," cheerful and uncomplaining, punctual, not nagging, not insisting on having your own way or the last word, not making a fuss over trifles or requiring him to solve minor problems that you should handle alone? **0 1 2 3 4**
7. Do you bolster your husband's ego, not comparing him unfavorably with more successful men, but making him feel that he is the most successful man you ever met? **0 1 2 3 4**
8. Do you prevent your mother and other relatives from intruding unduly, and show courtesy and consideration to his own relatives? **0 1 2 3 4**
9. Do you take a sympathetic and intelligent interest in his business – yet leaving him a free hand, not offering advice, criticism of associates, etc., unless asked, and realizing that he must often give time to his business when you would rather have him give that time to you? **0 1 2 3 4**
10. Do you cultivate an interest in his friends and recreations, so you can make a satisfactory partner of his leisure hours? **0 1 2 3 4**

*THE PERFECT SCORE, made by adding up your mark on each item, is 40. If you score less than 25, you should work hard for improvement.*

*Reprinted from PARADE Magazine*

## HUSBANDS

*To be answered by both husband and wife prior to Session 2*

Please read Ephesians 5:21-33 and I Peter 3:1-9.

1. Please list some ways in which a husband is to be willing to be subject to his wife.  
(Ephesians 5:21 - cf. Colossians 3:16)
2. In your opinion, what are some practical ways a husband can and should demonstrate love to his wife? (cf. I Peter 3:7)
3. Which are most important for a husband to consider in helping meet his wife's total needs?
4. How can a husband motivate his wife without discouraging her?
5. Please list several areas in which a husband should demonstrate leadership in the home.
6. What promise is made to the husband in I Peter 3:1-9 as a result of fulfilling Ephesians 5:25?



## Session 2 - The Husband's Role

*Ephesians 5:22-29, 1 Peter 3:7-9*

### Introduction:

#### A. Two primary roles of the husband - Ephesians 5:22-29

1. Leader
2. Lover
3. Mutually interdependent
4. Misuse results in dictatorship or over-sentimentality

#### B. Basis for fulfilling role of responsibility - Ephesians 5:18

1. Home/interpersonal relationships are primary showcase of control by Holy Spirit
2. To evaluate control/filled with Holy Spirit: Don't look at ministry, look at marriage

Ephesians 5:18

Example: Recognized need, door knob - mental stimulus wife - "you're different" son - "I've learned lots, want to be like you, treat my wife the same"

#### C. Submission not subjection, the life-style of every believer

Ephesians 5:21

1. To God

I Peter 5:6

2. To one another

I Peter 5:5

Philippians 2:3,4

## **I. Leader/head**

Ephesians 5:22-24

Genesis 3:16

I Timothy 3:4,5,12

### **A. Scriptural standard - "as Christ"**

Ephesians 5:23

1. Never forced - not dictatorship - not lacking love
2. Paradox of leadership

Matthew 20:25-28

### **B. Does not imply superiority/inferiority**

1. Head of Christ, God - not inferior - heresy

I Corinthians 11:3

2. Spiritually equal - functionally different

a. Interdependent in Body

I Corinthians 12:12-26

b. Not of greater or lesser importance

3. Created to fulfill roles - personal fulfillment dependent on this.

### **C. A leader wins followers**

I Peter 5:2,3

1. Genuine concern for follower –

Proverbs 27:23, "Tend the flock... "

2. By his example

"Not as domineering ...but being examples ... " (I Peter 5:2)

a. "... train yourself in godliness" I Timothy 4:7

b. Exercise self-control, i.e. personal habits, use of time

Proverbs 25:28

3. Misconception regarding gentleness/kindness

a. Considered sign of weakness

b. Only strong, confident, secure can afford to be gentle.

c. Insecure lead by demand/directives

D. Does not mean he is autocratic decision maker

1. Wise leader utilizes resources, information, discussion, counsel (use of gifts)

2. Allows full/ample mutual discussion/consideration

3. Husband makes final decision - held responsible

4. Wife adapts - follows

5. May choose to delegate decision making, e.g. household items, personal items

6. Will make mistakes

7. Value of decisiveness - creates confidence

## Session 3 - The Husband's Role *(continued)*

Ephesians 5:22-29, I Peter 3:7-9

### E. Some specific responsibilities

#### 1. Administrator/manager

Ephesians 5:22 (head)

I Timothy 3

- a. Priorities - not equated by quantity of time but attitude (prior attention)
- b. Planning - budget, e.g. tires
- c. Finances - manager, not necessarily bookkeeper (use of gifts)

#### 2. Spiritual guide/high priest

Psalm 78:5-7

a. Teach - truth

Deuteronomy 6:6,7

b. Train - skills

Proverbs 22:6

c. Build (develop - character)

Ephesians 6:4

#### 3. Counselor

Proverbs 27:23

a. Individual attention

b. Quality time, utilizing opportunities

#### 4. Officer for discipline

I Samuel 3:13 cf. 2:22f

a. United front

b. Maintain standards

#### 5. Protector "Saviour"

Ephesians 5:23

## II. Lover

Ephesians 5:25-31,33

I Peter 3:7

Colossians 3:19

Definition: "An unselfish concern that freely accepts another and seeks his good."

I Corinthians 13:4-7

Love . . . does not generalize, it discerns

. . . does not confuse, it communicates

. . . does not judge, it understands

Love binds

Colossians 3:14

Love is not a sentimental attitude, love is a discipline. It does whatever is necessary to hold things together..

Love builds

I Corinthians 8:1

Love takes the necessary corrective action that produces development/growth

A. Act of the Will - commanded/obeyed

Ephesians 5:25

Deuteronomy 6:5

John 13:34,35

I John 3:23

1. I Corinthians 13:4-7 (paraphrase) patience, kindness, generosity, humility, courtesy, unselfishness, good temper, guilelessness (pure thoughts), sincerity

2. My choice - God's power

Philippians 2:12,13

3. Demonstrated by actions (cf. qualities above)

B. Forgotten quality in Marriage

1. Basic need of woman - security of affection

Genesis 3:16

2. Too many stop courting, routine chore, becomes bore

3. Verbal expression - "I love you"

C. Understanding/acceptance

I Peter 3:7

1. Differences

a. Help evaluate abilities/gifts and encourage these

b. Don't compare or superimpose another image

c. Protect from self-imposed demands

d. Learn her family background, i.e., communication, sex, finances

2. Attentive listening communicates honest attempt to understand
  - a. "Thoughts disentangle themselves when passing over the lips and through the fingertips."
  - b. "Consideration, kindness more important than solution."
3. Communicate essentiality
  - Genesis 2:18 (God's evaluation)
    - a. Basic need in all of us.
    - b. Mutual projects - appreciation

D. Results of survey - What wife desires from husband

1. Fulfill role of man
2. Real interest in home things
3. Father to children
4. Care in personal habits
5. Financial fairness
6. Patience in sexual matters
7. Little remembrances
8. Program of advancement (home, car, personal development)
9. Discuss things
10. Show appreciation

## Session 4 – Love, Differences, Conflicts

*Ephesians 4:1-3*

### I. Love

I Corinthians 13:4-7

John 13:34,35

Ephesians 4:1-3

Definition: An unselfish concern that freely accepts another and seeks his good.

#### A. Four qualities of Love

Philippians 2:3,4

##### 1. Lowliness, humility

Philippians 2:3,4

I Peter 5:5,6

a. Essential to inner rest and peace

Matthew 11:28,29

b. Eliminates stress of comparison and competition.

2. Meekness – “An unwillingness to retaliate even when possible or justifiable”

a. Basically an attitude.

"He trusted to Him who judges justly" I Peter 2:21,23

b. Is based on my concept of God

c. Doesn't imply loss of self-image - contrary - can do only when secure regarding who I am.

##### 3. Patience, basic quality of Love

I Corinthians 13:4



a. Seeing people from God's point of view

Romans 8:29

b. Both in constant change

Philippians 1:6

c. God is in control

Isaiah 14:27

4. Forbearance – “Making allowance for faults and weakness without judgment”

a. Quality of God's character

Romans 2:4

II Peter 3:15

b. Anticipating in advance to bear that person up

B. Result - unity, oneness of heart minimizes interpersonal strife

## **II. Differences between male and female**

Genesis 1:27

Genesis 1:31

Lord, grant that I may seek more to understand than to be understood - Francis of Assisi

### **Male and Female**

by Julius A. Fritze\*

A man is basically a logical, rational creature; a female is basically an emotional creature. A man is more active and more aggressive. He is more emotionally stable and well-controlled about big things than is a woman. However, he is more irritable, excitable and impatient about small things. He is a vain, boastful exhibitionist. He is more optimistic than a woman and more businesslike. He is more ready to admit that he is mistaken - his logic demands it. He is more objective and consistent, which is another evidence of logic. He is more able to concentrate on a consistent basis without his emotions getting in the way . . .

A man is slower to mature, both physically and emotionally. However, a man, all things being equal, grows to a greater depth of maturity. A woman, being an emotional creature, is hindered in reaching this depth . . . The average man is likely, to be more direct, truthful, sportsmanlike and businesslike in communication with his fellowman . . . A man is more democratic in his dealings and is able to keep separate his business and personal relationships . . . A man ordinarily is less religious than a woman.

A man was made to love, a woman was made to be loved. A man does not need love, he needs respect. This he must earn. He will receive it if he is a dependable man . . . The little things count with a woman . . . A woman is a sensitive creature because she is an emotional being. Her sensitivity is necessary, not only to complement her husband, but also to be sensitive to her motherhood.

Therefore, since marriage in its essence is an emotional relationship between a male and a female, and this emotion is love, the responsibility for the success or failure of a marriage weighs far heavier upon the man than it does upon the woman.

\*From The Essence of Marriage by Julius Fritze. Copyright 1969 by Zondervan Publishing House. Used by permission.

#### A. Contrasts in Make-up

1. Man's biggest weakness is pride; the woman's, jealousy
2. The woman is more devotional; the man more devoted, deeper
3. The man is physically stronger; bones, muscles and the woman is biologically stronger; girl babies.
  - a. Woman lives longer
  - b. Man matures slower
4. Women want to be needed, understood and wanted

Emptiness and loneliness needs filling.

Warning: Only God can fully meet needs.

#### B. Use of speech, ideas, feelings

#### C. Differences sexually

### III. Resolving conflicts

Pride leads to arguments.

Proverbs 13:10

Philippians 2:3,4

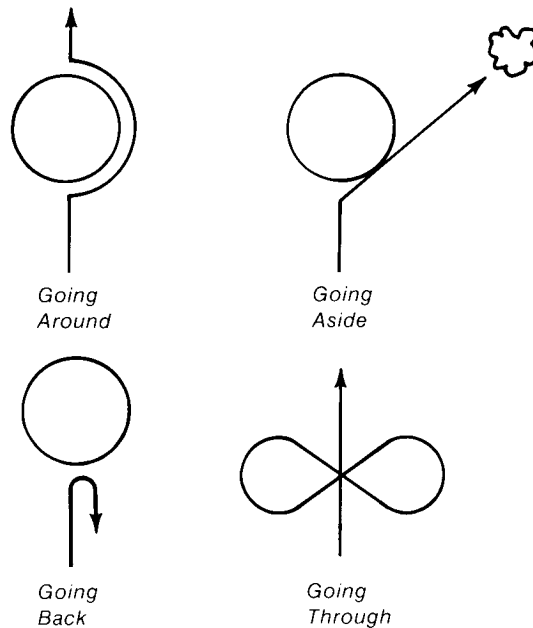
A. Conflicts normal in development

1. Interpersonal, conflict of wills
2. Personal, choices, right and wrong

B. Differences, conflict, problem

Four Ways to Handle Conflict\*

1. Conflict is a difference of opinion
  - a. Can be constructive and developmental
  - b. Requires commitment, mutual effort
  - c. Seeks mutually satisfactory resolution

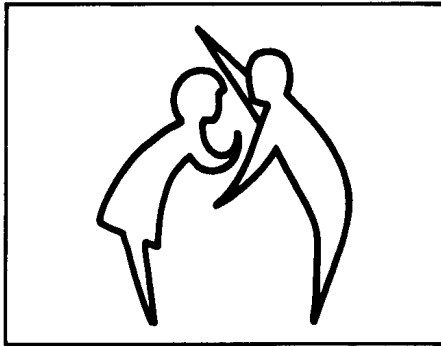


*\*From Competent to Counsel by J. E. Adams. Copyright 1970 by Presbyterian Reform Publishing Company. Used by permission.*

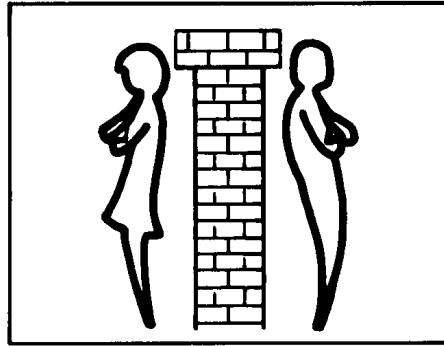
## 2. Problem

- a. Unresolved conflict
- b. Resurfaces, affects many areas
- c. Becomes more acute

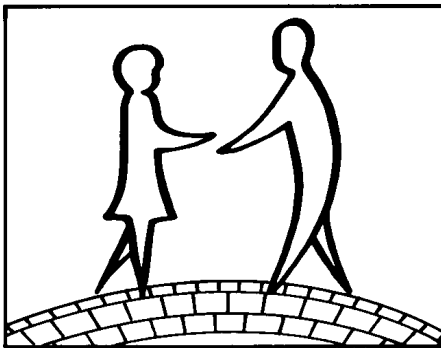
### Conflicts



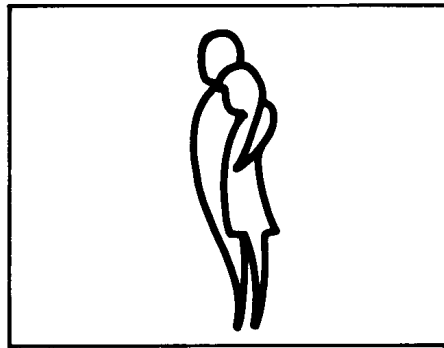
**Conflict**



**Unresolved Conflict**



**Mutual Effort**



**Reconciliation**

## C. How to Resolve

### 1. Reconciliation

Matthew 5:23,24

Matthew 18:15

Always my move. Never lose by giving in. I Peter 2:23

- a. People not issues
- b. Unity not uniformity, not to think alike, think together

## 2. Scriptural guidelines

### a. Honest

Ephesians 4:15

1) In love

2) Edifying

3) Christlikeness

b. "Don't sin by nursing a grudge." Ephesians 4:26

### c. Claim forgiveness

I John 1:7,9

### d. Forgive and forget

Ephesians 4:32

Matthew 18:21,22

### e. Reconstruction and upbuilding

Ephesians 4:16

## 3. "Don'ts" in conflict

a. Don't wait for him/her to apologize or refuse to be the first to give in

b. Don't keep bringing it up not allowing the conflict to end

c. Don't attack person rather than conflict -(character assassination)

d. Don't walk out (conflict killed in prime)

## SUMMARY

### III. One of Christ's primary ministries is reconciliation

#### A. To God

II Corinthians 5:19

Ephesians 2:16

#### B. To one another

Ephesians 2:14

Dividing wall of hostility.

I Peter 3:8,9

## WIVES

*To be answered by both husband and wife prior to Session 5*

Please read Ephesians 5:21-33 and I Peter 3:1-9.

1. Please list some practical reasons for having the wife maintain an attitude of submission to her husband.
2. In your opinion, what (from Genesis 2) is to be the wife's primary goal in her relationship to her husband?
3. Considering submission, what are some qualities of a good follower?
4. In what ways can a wife contribute effectively to the marriage partnership?
5. How can a wife call something to the attention of her husband without seeming to "nag"?
6. How can differences of opinion be handled effectively and constructively?

## Session 5 – The Wife’s Role

*Ephesians 5:22-24,33; I Peter 3:1-6*

### **Introduction:**

A. Two basic qualities of life

1. Attitude of follower

2. Attitude of helper

B. Complete not compete

### **I. Follower/submissive**

Compares to life style of a disciple

Ephesians 5:21

I Peter 5:5

A. Choice of the will - not natural inclination

I delight to do Thy will

Psalm 40:8

Supernatural work: combination action/power

Philippians 2:12,13

Willing adaptation, not forced subjugation

1. "Be in submission"-continuous present action. Need for constant renewal. Life style.

2. Command, not request

3. To be done by wife, not to her

B. Primarily an attitude - willing

Placing yourself in submission to God

Ephesians 5:22



Definition: "Yielding intelligent, humble obedience to an ordained authority. "

1. Illustration of Christ

Philippians 2:5f

"Mind" refers to attitude, way of real fulfillment (verse 9)

2. Likewise

I Peter 3:1

Cf. /Peter 2:21 f

Submission - directly related to concept of God

KEY: "Trusted to God who judges justly"

3. Church finds freedom in submitting to Christ so wives find freedom not bondage in submitting

Ephesians 5:24

C. Not place of inferiority - God's order of relationships

Genesis 3:16

Ephesians 5:23

1. God will not hold wife responsible for decisions but submission
2. Created with qualities to fulfill roles
3. Mutual fulfillment in functioning in role

D. Does not mean:

1. Intellectual stagnation but continual development
2. Passivity -loss of identity/personality
3. Lack of fulfillment - contrary/way to fulfillment

E. Key to making a leader, being a good follower

**Session 6 – The Wife’s Role** (*continued*)  
*Ephesians 5:22-24,33; 1 Peter 3:1-6*

**II. Helper/partner**

Genesis 2:18

Proverbs 31:10-12

Need for love/affection

It binds and builds

Titus 2:4

**A. Ideally suited**

Genesis 2:18

1. No one else can contribute in same way.

Proverbs 12:4

Proverbs 18:22

2. Intimate knowledge - unique opportunity to support and assist in areas of need unobtrusively.
3. Requires commitment/selflessness. Need to work at this continually.

**B. Husband is primary ministry**

1. Primary ministry of church

Ephesians 5:24

2. Not exclusive, reinforce prior attention concept

3. Provide home

a. Atmosphere of encouragement, understanding, refuge

b. He can depend on her - doesn't like to admit dependence - she doesn't remind him of it

- c. Doesn't try to manipulate - discusses freely
- d. Trap or opportunity: The key is attitude
- e. Exhibit contentment with role

I Timothy 6:6

C. Contribute as member of partnership

- 1. Industrious in areas of responsibility

Proverbs 31

- 2. Honest communication (possible conflict)

Amos 3:3

- 3. Helpful suggestions/ideas: delicate area, timing and attitude are key
- 4. Doesn't sulk: express, forgive, forget

D. Character adornment

I Peter 3:3-6

- 1. Beauty not only external - deteriorates/fades
- 2. Gentle, quiet spirit: inner beauty, grows with years
- 3. Strength, dignity, humor, wisdom, kindness, industry

Proverbs 31:25-27

Delightful result

Proverbs 31:28,29

E. Result of survey - What husband desires from wife

- 1. Wife content with role
- 2. Support in his areas of need
- 3. Home: affection, understanding, encouragement

4. Dress like women
5. Skillful use of makeup, perfume, etc.
6. Cleanliness/daintiness (intimate)
7. Encouragement: comments on strengths
8. Allow them to be gentlemen

### **A Wife's Prayer**

*Father, I pray that our marriage will become more and more intimate and harmonious, like the relationship between You and Your Son. Enable me to do my part in stimulating this unity by respecting, admiring and submitting to the one You have given to be my leader. Thank you that Your design for marriage is for our good that we may find maximum gladness and fulfillment, and for Your glory as together we reveal You to others.*

*Thank you, for uniquely designing me to be a helper suitable to my husband. May he be, next to You, the number one person in my life - at the top of my daily priority list. Make me sensitive to his needs and delighted to meet them. Cause me to chatter less and listen more, to understand his intentions and cooperate with his ideas and plans, to have a teachable, flexible spirit that does not insist on my viewpoints or my way of doing things. Above all, love him through me with Your unconditioned love for him that will overshadow his faults and failures and support him in the hour of his temptation. Cause me to focus my thoughts on the things about him that I admire, and give me the words to express this admiration to him. I want to be whole-heartedly on his team, his greatest supporter and fan.*

*Make me aware of the slightest deviation from this Your way for me. And when I offend him by word or attitude, give me the grace to seek his forgiveness immediately, though it be a dozen -or even a hundred -times a day.*

*Cause me always to remember that Christ is my life - that He is a tremendous power within me, making me sufficient to be the helper my husband needs. Together may we show our children, in "living color," an example of Your love.*

*In Jesus Name, Amen*

## COMMUNICATION

*To be answered by both husband and wife prior to Session 7*

1. Please explain what you think it means to communicate adequately with your mate.
2. In what ways can marriage partners help one another express themselves?
3. Please indicate two basic fears that keep people from honest, open expression.
4. How is our expression affected when we feel there is a preconceived image of us?
5. Why is understanding the God-given differences between men and women important in communication?
6. In your opinion, at what age can you begin to communicate well with your children?
7. How do you think communication could be improved in your family?

## Session 7 – Communication

*Amos 3:3, Philippians 2:2, 4:2*

### Introduction

One of basic human needs: to be listened to and understood

90% counseling needs: marital

Marriage vows are honest and meaningful but don't solve the need for mutual effort in communication.

Need for agreement, oneness Amos 3:3

Definitions of Communication:

Communication "occurs whenever there is a meeting of meaning between two or more persons. \*

"Communication means to overcome the desire to conceal feelings and thoughts and rise to the level of honesty... \*\*

Dialogue "is that interaction between persons in which one of them seeks to give himself as he is to the other, and seeks also to know the other as the other is.\*

"The art of marital communication is making it clear to your spouse, by word or touch or gesture exactly what it is you mean by what you say, or exactly what emotions and attitudes underlie the words, inflections, and gestures. \*\*\*

"Address and response between persons - a flow of meaning between them in spite of obstacles. \*\*\*

*\* From The Miracle of Dialogue by Reuel Howe. Copyright (c) 1963 by The Seabury Press, Inc. Used by permission.*

*\*\* From Building a Christian Home by Dr. Henry Brandt and Homer E. Dowdy. Copyright 1965 by Scripture Press Publications, Inc. Used by permission.*

*\*\*\* From How To Stay Married by Norman Lobsenz and Clark Blackburn. Copyright 1968 by Henry Rignery Co. Used by permission.*

## I. Primary conditions

### A. Recognize the importance of communication

#### 1. Scriptural guideline regarding unity

Philippians 2:2; Philippians 4:2

#### 2. Unity not uniformity

#### 3. Danger of "side-by-side" involvement without ever really "finding" one another

### B. Commitment and courage

Proverbs 13:4

#### 1. Willingness to reveal self

#### 2. Risk of rejection - Proverbs 12:25

#### 3. "If I tell you who I am . . . "

#### 4. Willingness to admit need, the Christian misconception, "I ought to be able to handle it."

### C. Personal qualities

#### 1. Honesty (Say what you really mean)

Ephesians 4:25; Ephesians 4:15

##### a. Guidelines:

##### 1) In love

##### 2) Edifying, developmental - Proverbs 12:18

##### 3) Christlikeness

##### b. Admit when you're wrong, don't be evasive

#### 2. Openness, teachable willingness to be taught

Proverbs 18:15; Proverbs 25:12

## **Session 8 - Communication** *(continued)*

*Amos 3:3, Philippians 2:2, 4:2*

### **I. Primary conditions** *(continued)*

#### 3. Disciplined listener

Proverbs 13:3

- a. Listening with "third ear" (emotional overtones)
- b. Question when not sure of understanding
- c. Conditioned self-defense. Half of time forced to listen to teachers, bosses, salesmen, TV
- d. Bad listening habits
  - 1) Know each other so well, get used to a pattern
  - 2) Selective listening; what interests me
  - 3) Listen five times as fast as anyone can speak so mind wanders
  - 4) "Tune out" words: money, mother-in-law, ladies club, golf games

### **II. Purposes of communication**

#### A. Develop and strengthen relationships

Proverbs 27:17

Proverbs 28:23

#### B. Personal development

##### 1. Self-discipline

Proverbs 25:28

##### 2. Objectivity

Proverbs 18:13,17



C. Resolve conflicts as they arise

"Don't sin by nursing your grudge"

Ephesians 4:26

D. Provide information for smooth functioning

E. Agree in decision making

F. Deepen enjoyment of one another

### **III. Problems in communication**

A. Human heart

Isaiah 53:6

Jeremiah 17:9

John 3:19,20

B. Nature of language

Dictionary lists 14,000 meanings for 500 most common words

C. Fears, apprehensions, i.e., judgment, reflection, revelation, betrayal, loss of admiration

D. Defensiveness

Proverbs 13:10

Proverbs 10:19

E. Recalling past failures

F. Non-verbal communication, i.e., facial expressions, posture, sigh

## **IV. Principles of communication**

Luke 6:31

A. Mutual consideration - Philippians 2:3,4

B. Example of Christ

1. Acceptance, not approval

John 8

2. Empathy "heart moved", i.e., casting out demons, healing, raising dead

3. Honesty, i.e., woman at the well

John 4

C. Personal discipline, verbal/non-verbal

1. Communicate regarding daily seeming nonessentials, maintain open lines, communicate on deeper issues when necessary

2. Use of non-verbal communication

a. Full use increases effective communication by four times

b. Many ways to say, "I love you." i.e., A glance, playful touch or a nod

## Verbal and Non-verbal Communication

by Howard J. Clinebell, Jr. and Charlotte H. Clinebell•

Good communication is the ability to transmit and receive meanings; it is the instrument for achieving that mutual understanding which is at the heart of marital intimacy. Words are not the only communicators. Communication in any close relationship occurs on literally dozens of levels simultaneously.

Suppose a wife greets her returning husband with the words, "I thought you'd never come home." Her husband hears her words, but also receives simultaneously several other messages. There is the tone of her voice and its inflection: is it a whine or a caress? Her facial expression and the movement of her body tell him something. Is she smiling or frowning? Does she turn her back or reach out to him? There is also the implied expectation in his wife's remark, sometimes called the "demand quality" of communication. What response is she expecting from him? An apology for being late? A return caress such as, "I missed you, too." An attack: "Can't you let me live my own life?" Or is she asking for a lingering embrace? At the same time... the husband's ability to understand his wife's greeting depends on his ability at that moment to sort out and weigh the multilevel messages he receives.

Meantime, the wife is also required to translate the many cues she is getting from her husband. Communication is always a two-way street. Both husband and wife are simultaneously sending and receiving messages. Her statement can probably be understood only in the context of what happened between them before he went to work that day. The husband also sends several non-verbal messages as he enters the front door. . .

In order to strengthen communication in a marriage, a couple needs to learn to use the varied lines through which the messages and meanings are transmitted...

Another road to productive communication is, for husband and wife to learn the skill of saying it straight. Direct rather than devious, specific rather than generalized statements are required. A wife criticizes her husband as he sits at the breakfast table hidden behind the newspaper, "I wish you wouldn't always slurp your coffee." What she really means is, "I feel hurt when you hide in the newspaper instead of talking to me." Saying it straight involves being honest about negative as well as positive feelings, and being able to state them in a non-attacking way: "I feel . . . .," rather than "You are . . . ."

*Abridged and adapted from pp. 87-93 of "Communication" in The Intimate Marriage by Howard J. Clinebell and Charlotte H. Clinebell. Copyright, - 1970 by Howard J. Clinebell and Charlotte H. Clinebell. Reprinted by permission of Harper and Row, Publishers, Inc.*

## **MINISTRY AND WORSHIP**

*To be answered by both husband and wife prior to Session 9*

1. Please express your personal definition of worship. (See Psalm 103.)
  
2. According to John 4:24, what are the basic qualities required for worship?
  
3. Since worship is more "caught than taught," suggest some ways an attitude of worship can be developed in the context of the home.
  
4. Because we live in a society with deteriorating values, please suggest some ways of ministering meaningfully to the family in the home.
  
5. Please suggest some ways in which your home can serve as an effective vehicle for influencing friends and neighbors toward Jesus Christ.

## Session 9 - The Home as the Center of Worship & Ministry

*Deuteronomy 5:29; 6:5-7, 20-25; Psalm 78:5-7*

### Introduction

#### A. God's intended primary source

Psalm 143:10

II Peter 3:18

1. Learning of Him
2. Growing in Him
3. Learning to serve Him

#### B. Family under attack

1. "Demands too great on parents."
2. God's concept and purpose is not deficient. Practice has been an instrument of good, the use of it, faulty.

#### C. Three concepts

##### 1. What? Dissemination of facts

Deuteronomy 6:20-25

Psalm 78:5-7

Expression of truth - teaching - understanding. Importance of positive exposure

##### 2. How? Instruction in skills and techniques

1 Timothy 3:14, 15

1 Timothy 4:5-8, 11-16

Training, proficiency

3. Why? Development of personal conviction. Building character.

I Timothy 2:15

II Timothy 3:14-17

Note:

1. Importance of early exposure to the Word

2. The Word is profitable for maturity, i.e., development of character.

## **I. Worship**

A. What?

1. Based on worthiness of object of worship

a. My concept of God

Jeremiah 9:23,24

b. Attitude of respect and reverence

Mark 7:25-30

Revelation 4:11

c. Act of demonstration

Luke 19:8,9

## Session 10 - Home as the Center of Worship & Ministry *(continued)*

*Deuteronomy 5:29; 6:5-7, 20-25; Psalm 78:5-7*

### I. Worship

#### A. What? (continued)

##### 2. More than mystical experience.

###### Scriptural Illustrations

- a. II Corinthians 8:3,5 . . . . . Give myself first
- b. Deuteronomy 26:10 . . . . . Firstfruits worship
- c. Matthew 26:7 . . . . . (Alabaster box) life investment
- d. Luke 5:5-11 . . . . . (Peter) catch of fish

##### 3. Atmosphere, spirit of home

- a. Verbal recognition of God's presence and involvement
- b. Normal subject of conversation - Deuteronomy 6:6,7

#### B. How?

##### 1. Honesty regarding spiritual truth - John 4:24

- a. Spirit-controlled attitudes - Ephesians 5:18
- b. Application of Word to actions

Confession and apology when necessary

##### 2. Developing and exhibiting a spirit of praise and

thanksgiving

Psalm 35:28

Hebrews 13:15

### 3. Family devotions

- a. Exposing to truth regarding God
- b. Tailored and geared to level of development
- c. Enjoyable

#### C. Why?

- 1. He is worthy - Revelation 4:11
- 2. Command and example of Christ - Matthew 4:10
- 3. Life of hope and fulfillment - Psalm 78:7; Romans 15:13
- 4. God's constant search - John 4:23
- 5. Learn to want what God wants - Acts 22:8,10

## **II. Ministry - Spiritual truth more caught than taught**

#### A. What?

- 1. Development and maturity of character of those in home  
Deuteronomy 6:6,7
  - a. Demands individualized involvement  
i.e., age, interest, level of understanding
  - b. Living situation greatly revealing
- 2. Exposure to meaningful truth and techniques

#### B. How?

- 1. Mutual honesty
  - Ephesians 4:25
  - Ephesians 4:15
  - Colossians 3:16



a. Teachable spirit

Proverbs 18:15

b. Admission, confession, forgiveness

Ephesians 4:32

2. Involvement in Bible investigation consistent, not routine

a. Family altar, devotions

1) Keep meaningful, varied, brief

2) Exposure to Word, beware of unrealistic demands

3) Avoid superimposing adult expectations

b. Conversations at meals

1) Include each one, all get involved

2) Use of normal opportunities, don't force

3) Communicate, don't use cliches, think!

c. Application of scriptural principles to experiences of life

3. Prayer times

a. Conversational

b. Special needs, events, share answers

c. Personal experiences and needs

4. General conduct

a. Basic attitudes (mutual consideration)

Ephesians 4:2,3

b. Personal habits and manners

c. Carry share of load

## C. Why?

To influence others outside the home

### 1. Greater exposure to non-Christian community

- a. Share our lives, win confidence, requires effort, time, patience
- b. Don't force witness, pray and trust the Holy Spirit to prepare the way and open the door
- c. Purposeful entertainment, at home or a coffee shop, share testimony
- d. Possible uses of tapes - "seminar conference we just attended"

### 2. What attracts non-Christians?

- a. Love and acceptance, not necessarily approval

John 8

- b. Love among us

John 13:34,35

- c. Christian character observed

Galatians 5:22,23

- d. Purpose, goal, conviction in life

Isaiah 14:27

- e. Confidence in what we believe and why

- f. Ability to present Gospel understandably and clearly

## **PARENT - CHILDREN RELATIONSHIPS**

*To be answered by both husband and wife prior to Session 11*

Please read Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:20,21.

1. The Bible states two basic attitudes that children are to demonstrate toward their parents. What are they?
2. Having identified these two, how would you explain the differences between the two and their practical application?
3. Deuteronomy 6:6,7 and Proverbs 27:23 suggest some excellent principles of teaching and relationships in the home. What are they and how can they be applied?
4. In your opinion what should be the primary objectives in training and disciplining our children?
5. Ephesians 6:4 expresses a basic attitude that parents should demonstrate to their children. Please identify it and explain its application.
6. What are the three most pressing problems you and your spouse face currently in raising your children?

*Father, our children keep;  
We know not what is coming on the earth;  
Beneath the shadow of Thy heavenly wing  
O keep them, keep them, Thou who gav'st them birth.*

*Father, draw nearer us;  
Draw firmer round us Thy protecting arm;  
O clasp our children closer to Thy side,  
Uninjured in the day of earth's alarm.*

*Them in Thy chambers hide;  
O hide them and preserve them calm and safe,  
When sin abounds, and error flows abroad,  
And Satan tempts, and human passions chafe.*

*O keep them undefiled,  
Unspotted from a 'tempting world of sin,  
That, clothed in white, through the bright city-gates,  
They may with us in triumph enter in.*

*Horatius Bonar*

## Session 11 – Parent-Children Relationships

*Ephesians 6:1-4, Psalm 78:5-7, Deuteronomy 6:6-7*

### Introduction:

A. Children in marriage are a gift from God

Genesis 33:5

Psalm 127:3

B. Honest parent desires child's best interest and happiness

KEY: Set hope in God; result is happiness and blessing

Psalm 78:7

Psalm 71:5

Psalm 146:5

C. Rules of interpersonal relationships Each has responsibilities Seminar geared to parents

D. All principles covered must be applied

1. Christ-centered

Acts 4:12

Colossians 2:9,10

2. Word authority

Numbers 23:19

II Timothy 3:16

3. Guidelines of love

John 13:34,35

Ephesians 4:15

I Corinthians 13

4. Importance of the individual

I Corinthians 12:18

## **I. Importance of parents' roles**

### **Parent Love Begins With Married Love**

by Dr. David Goodman\*

We have come to understand that every period in life has its special problem, and that even a newborn baby has a lesson to learn - to receive and give love.

But this problem really began before his birth. It began with you two, his parents. Unless you love each other, you cannot properly love him nor provide a love-warmed home for him ...

A man who is a good lover to his wife is his children's best friend. His love upholds her spirit, gives her joy and enthusiasm. Child care is play to a woman who is happy. And only a man can make a woman happy. In deepest truth, a father's first duty to his children is to make their mother feel fulfilled as a woman . . .

The wife who is unhappy in her relations with her husband tends to over-attach herself to her children and dominate all the aspects of their life. This inhibits their growth in self-reliance . . .

What wives need to know, especially American wives, is that children have to have fathers, not only providers, nice human fathers, cheerful and relaxed... A married woman has two jobs: one to care for her children, the other to keep a man happy. Many women object to this, giving up the second job when the first gets too burdensome. But they're foolish. If they balance their devotion, they'd come out better in the end . . . Much of the attention that mothers give their children is excessive . . . Husbands, however, are often neglected.

### **My Husband - An Assistant Mother?**

In countless families, the father is merely "mother's little helper." She exhorts him, "why don't you change the baby?" "How about feeding him while I go shopping?" "Get him dressed, I'm busy." "It's condoned by many family experts. They urge today's father to be a part-time nursemaid so that he will be "emotionally enriched" as mother is.

But this is foolish advice. Male physiology and psychology aren't geared to it. Not that there's anything wrong with a father occasionally giving baby a bottle, or changing a diaper if the situation requires it or he enjoys it. What's wrong is thinking that it adds to his parenthood. When a man tries to be a "better "father by acting like a mother, he is not only less fulfilled as a father, but as a man too. A father's relationship with his children can't be built mainly around child-caring experiences. If it is, he's a substitute mother - not a father!

*Reprinted by permission of Hawthorn Books Inc. from A Parent's Guide to the Emotional Needs of Children. Copyright © 1959, by Dr. David Goodman.*

## **Fathers Wanted!**

by Paul Popenoe

It has been supposed by man v that the mother should be considered mainly responsible for the development of all her children, for the first five or ten Years, after which the father might be expected to devote more time to the boys. Research generally shows that this idea is quite contrary to fact, and that perhaps the first five years of a boy's life are especially .significant in respect to his development as a "normal" male. One study found that "father absence" in the lives of three-to-five year old children left them seriously handicapped; another study of four-to-eight year old children who for the first two years of their lives had been separated from their fathers, often due to the parent's military service, showed them perceived by their returned fathers to be "sissies."

The boy who receives positive, fathering is particularly well suited to both learn and effectively influence his peer group. . . Having observed his father's relationship with his mother, he has learned basic skills in interacting with females. He can communicate adequately with the opposite sex. He does not feel intimidated by women, yet he does not have to dominate them constantly. He can accept their femininity because he is secure in his masculinity. . . On the other hand, the paternally deprived boy is likely to have developmental difficulties.

In families where the husband has to be away from home a great deal, particular pains should be taken to see that the boy has adequate opportunity to spend some time alone with Dad.

### ***Two basic concepts:***

1. Goal: respect for authority - Ephesians 6:1,2
2. Personal responsibility - Psalm 78:6,7

## **II. Consideration**

Ephesians 6:4

Ephesians 4:2,3

I Corinthians 13:4-7

A. A child needs to know that his parents love, want and enjoy him - love

(Review definition of love)

1. Express enjoyment of them verbally
2. Need for physical expression of love (i.e., sit on your lap, hold hand, touching them)
3. Praise child for effort not perfection of act

## **Session 12 – Parent-Children Relationships** *(continued)*

*Ephesians 6:1-4, Psalm 78:5-7, Deuteronomy 6:6-7*

### **(II. Consideration - cont.)**

B. His parents like him for himself - just as he is - all of the time-acceptance, not just when he performs acceptingly

1. Disapprove action not person
2. Avoid exasperated talk - critical, blaming, generalizing - "When will you ever..."
3. Help develop positive self-image. Importance of every individual.

I Corinthians 12:12-26 (see verse 18)

C. His home is a safe place - his parents are available - he belongs, fits - security and protection

1. Play, serious business - not encouraging irresponsibility - let children be children
2. Include in decisions and decision making

Teenage #2

3. Review priorities - "Prior Attention"
4. Don't ignore or try to explain away fears -acknowledge, admit and encourage

### **III. Correction (discipline)**

Proverbs 13:24

Proverbs 19:18

Proverbs 22:15

A. Has goal of development of responsible behavior, communicate caring

1. Learning life's requirements in context of love



## 2. Difference between discipline and punishment

### a. Punishment:

- 1) Penalty for offense
- 2) Given in hostility and frustration
- 3) Produces fear and guilt

### b. Discipline:

- 1) Train and correct for development
- 2) Love and concern

### 3. Produces security

## B. Need for united front

1. Agreement of standards and methods
2. Mutual reinforcement

## C. Parents want him to grow up to be independently dependent on the Lord and Word

1. Cannot be forced but mustn't be smothered
2. Don't compare. Each child is different.
3. Decision making
  - a. Offer choices that are relatively simple
  - b. Help them to understand the consequences
  - c. Three kinds of situations:
    - 1) Parent has definite opinion, preference -express honestly
    - 2) Don't imply that the child can decide if a decision is already firm
    - 3) No preference of parent

d. Prohibition where possible permanent or serious harm

4. Choosing friends

Reserve judgment, expose yourself, examine prejudices. If reservations, discuss and determine the course of action.

5. Homework is basically self-discipline. Don't get caught as the enforcer. Serve as a resource, basically between child and teacher.

D. There are limits to discipline, parents will reinforce limits, establishment and respect for authority and control

1. Importance for future, God and society

2. Early years, command coincides with physical reinforcement, not necessarily spanking

3. Discipline must be fair, prompt, terminal

Ecclesiastes 8:11

a. Fair

1) Explained, understood

2) Avoid discipline in impatience, poor judgment

3) Fit the offense

b. Prompt

1) As soon after offense as possible

2) By parent present when possible

c. Terminal judgment

1) No continued reminders

2) Re-acceptance

3) Sentence (discipline) may require time

#### 4. Physical discipline

##### a. Scriptural

Proverbs 13:24

Proverbs 23:13

(whole book)

##### b. Psychologists judgment result of misuse

##### c. Reserved for necessary time

##### d. How? hand, rod

1) Exponents of rod, spoon

2) Bible

Psalm 32:4

Job 19:21

Hand of love, discipline

##### 5. Pick battlefields when demanding respect for authority

### **IV. Consistency**

Psalm 15:4

#### A. Self discipline

Proverbs 25:28

Galatians 5:22,23

"The child who does not learn both by example and instruction will not respect his parents . . . When discipline is reasonable and understandable, and when the parents' own behavior is consistent with their demands on the child, he will love and respect them even though his surface attitude may not always show it."

#### B. Will do what we do, not what we say

C. Especially important in discipline

D. Fulfilling word, commitments

E. Demonstrating love and enjoyment

\*From Reality Therapy by William Glasser. Copyright 1965 by Harper and Row, Publishers, Inc. Used by permission.

## **V. Conclusion**

A. Parents basic responsibility - fear, honor the Lord

Proverbs 14:26

B. Ultimately child's individual choice

Psalm 78:5-7

Philippians 1:6

## THE FAMILY

by Derek Kidner

The two (parents) share the children's training and are assumed to speak with one voice (Proverbs 1:8,9; 6:20 etc.). Toward his partner, the man is urged to be not merely loyal but ardent, ". . . ravished always with her love" (5:19). Far from being a cypher, the woman is the making or the undoing of her husband (a God-given "boon," 18:22; 19:14; indeed his "crown;" or else ". . . rottenness in his bones" 12:4). On her constructive womanly wisdom chiefly depends the family's stability (14:1), and if she happens to possess exceptional gifts she will have ample scope for them. . .

The way (discipline) has to be hard for two reasons. First, "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child..." it will take more than words to dislodge it (22:15). Secondly, character is a plant that grows more sturdily from some cutting back (cf. 15:32,33; 5:11,12; Heb. 12:11) and this from early days (13:24,6, cf. 22:6).

The parents' chief resource is constructive, namely their "law," taught with loving persistence. This "law" is a wide term which includes commands (cf. 3:1; 7:2) but is not confined to them: Basically it means direction, and its aim here is to foster wise habits of thought and action . . . There is a childhood reminiscence of its tenderness preserved in 4:3ff. and a sample of its bracing outspokenness, its home truths, in 31:1-9.

Many are the reminders, however, that even the best training cannot instill wisdom, but only encourage the choice to seek it (e.g. 2:1ff). A son may be too opinionated to learn (13:1; cf. 17:21). A good home may produce an idler (10:5) or a profligate (29:3); he may rebel enough to despise (15:20), mock (30:17) or curse (30:11; 20:20) his parents; heartless enough to run through their money (28:24) and even turn a widowed mother out of doors (19:26). While there are parents who have only themselves to thank for their shame (29:15), it is ultimately the man himself who must bear his own blame, for it is his attitude to wisdom (29:3a; 2:2ff), his consent given or withheld (1:10) in face of temptation which sets his course.

*From Proverbs: Introduction and Commentary by Derek Kidner. © 1964 by Tyndale Press, London. Used by permission of Inter-Varsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois.*

## Bibliography

Petersen, J. Allan, (Compiled by). *The Marriage Affair*. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers. 1971. Paperback. 420 pages.

*A smorgasbord of information and inspiration from many sources - organized, practical, and dealing with every phase of marriage and the family. Excellent.*

### MARRIAGE AND THE HOME

Brandt, Henry R. *Building a Christian Home*. Wheaton, Illinois: Scripture Press Publications, Inc. 1965. Paperback. 150 pages.

or...

Narramore, Clyde M. *How to Succeed in Family Living*. Glendale, California: Gospel Light Publications. 1968. Paperback. 119 pages.

*These two books cover the basics for establishing and maintaining a Christian home. Scriptural principles and teaching and practical suggestions regarding husband-wife relationships, roles of men and women, finances, principles of rearing and disciplining children, etc. Either book is excellent. ,*

Evans, Louis H. *Your Marriage - Duel Or Duet?* Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co. 1962. Paperback. 125 pages.

*Clear scriptural teaching of principles of marriage. Small attractive book. Good for the engaged or the married. Scriptural orientation.*

La Haye, Tim. *How to Be Happy Though Married*. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers. 1968. Paperback. 160 pages.

*Excellent book for married or engaged. Has some good information concerning temperaments. Deals with all aspects of marriage. Includes detailed information and teaching of the anatomy, male and female. Scriptural orientation.*

Lobsenz, Norman M. and Blackburn, Clark. *How to Stay Married*. Chicago: Henry Rignery Co. 1968. Paperback (Crest). 206 pages.

*A modern approach to sex, money and emotions in marriage. Secular orientation.*

Popenoe, Paul. *Marriage is What You Make It*. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1950. Paperback (Abbey Press). 218 pages.

*Discussion of the common problems of marriage - and how to overcome them. Christian principles but in secular terminology and language. Profitable and could be used for non-Christians who might object to "Christian" or "Bible-centered" emphasis.*

Small, Dwight H. *Design for Christian Marriage*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co. 1971. Paperback. 255 pages.

*Good book with general scriptural teaching concerning God's plan for marriage, and how it affects friendships, dating, and general life preparation during formative years and later. Excellent material for helping form good attitudes during the teenage years . . . and later.*

Trobisch, Walter. *I Married You*. New York: Harper & Row. 1971. Paperback. 135 pages.

*Excellent teaching written in an easy-to-read, story-telling style. The setting is Africa, but the problems dealt with are relevant to all parts of the world and to all cultures. Written for married persons, those who are preparing for marriage, and other unmarried persons. Good ideas for teaching and counseling.*

## **COMMUNICATION**

Howe, Reuel L. *The Miracle of Dialogue*. New York: The Seabury Press. 1963. Paperback. 154 pages.

*The principles of in-depth dialogue in communication and practical suggestions for incorporating these principles in the life. A bit technical - but well worth reading. Based on scriptural principles.*

Powell, John. *Why Am I Afraid to Tell You Who I Am?* Chicago, Illinois: Argus Communications. 1969. Paperback. 167 pages.

*Insights on self-awareness, personal growth and interpersonal communication. Secular orientation.*

Tournier, Paul. *To Understand Each Other*. Richmond, Virginia: John Knox Press. 1962. 63 pages.

*Deals especially with problems of communications and interpersonal relationships in marriage. Emphasizes principles and does not go into a lot of detail. Small, attractive book. Easy to read. Based on scriptural principles.*

## **PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP IN MARRIAGE**

(Practical for either the married or engaged)

Henry, Joseph B. *Fulfillment in Marriage*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co. 1966. 147 pages.

*Includes subjects such as differences between men and women, the meaning of love in marriage, questions with which to test your attitude about readiness for marriage and more. Good, detailed information concerning the sexual relationship in marriage.*

Miles, Herbert J. *Sexual Happiness in Marriage*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House. 1967. Paperback. 148 pages.

*A Christian interpretation of sexual adjustment in marriage. A positive approach to the details and techniques you should know to achieve a healthy and satisfying sexual relationship.*

## **FOR WOMEN**

(Married or Engaged)

Shedd, Charlie W. *Letters to Karen*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co. 1965. Paperback. 159 pages.

*A pastor's letters to his newly married daughter who asked for his advice in making her marriage a successful one. Easy reading. Humorous. Enjoyable.*

## **FOR MEN**

(Married or Engaged)

Shedd, Charlie W. Letters to Philip On HOW to Treat a Woman. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co. 1968. Paperback. 128 pages.

*A frank look at the male role - the do's and taboos of dealing with women, the tactful art of having and holding successful relationships in marriage. A pastor's letters to his son. Easy reading. Humorous. Enjoyable.*

## **FOR PARENTS**

Beecher, Marguerite and Beecher, Willard. Parents on the Run. New York: Grosset & Dunlap. 1967. Paperback. 236 pages.

*A common sense book for today's parents. Explains the need for discipline and gives practical suggestions on how to implement it. Secular orientation.*

Dobson, Dr. James. Dare to Discipline. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers. 1970. Paperback. 224 pages.

*Principles explained and ideas given on how to implement the principles. Covers helpful ideas concerning education, drugs, etc. In accord with scriptural principles.*

Goodman, Dr. David. A Parent's Guide to the Emotional Needs of Children. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc. 1968. 304 pages.

*Dr. Goodman "takes the position that parents have the responsibility and the capacity for dealing with what comes if they will see to their own relationship and pay reasonable attention to their children's needs." Recommended by Mrs. Billy Graham as the best book she has read on the subject of raising children. Excellent book. Secular orientation that reaffirms scriptural teaching.*

Narramore, Dr. Bruce. Help! I'm a Parent. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House. 1972. 171 pages.

*By combining the practical insights of modern psychology with the lasting insights of the Bible, a solid and balanced approach to the problems of modern parenthood can be discovered. Practical, workable answers to the dilemma of parenthood and child-raising.*

Narramore, Clyde M. HOW to Tell Your Children About Sex. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House. 1957. Paperback. 67 pages.

*Explains how children are being taught sexual concepts from the time of birth whether or not the parents realize this is happening. Recommended highly for couples who are to become parents. Excellent for teaching very young children (ages 1-6) as well as older children. Very practical and helpful. Scriptural orientation.*

*Other books with much good information for parents are The Marriage Affair (Petersen) and the first two books in the section on Marriage and the Home.*



### **FOR TEENAGERS** (*and Parents of Teenagers*)

These books are a good way to encourage communication with your own or other teenagers. Read the book at the same time the teenager does and invite discussion - chapter by chapter. Be sure that you have an open mind if you do this.

Jurgensen, Barbara. *Parents, Ugh!* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House. 1968. Paperback. 60 pages.

*Good illustrations and cartoons by Charles M. Schultz and Roy Wolfe.*

Mallett, Harold. *When Not to Obey Your Parents.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House. 1969. 102 pages.

*The author's purpose is not to end parent control, or to urge the teenager to rebel. Rather, his purpose is to clarify the issues, explore the possibilities, and guide the young person to responsible adulthood. A provocative and fascinating look at the maturing teenager- from the teenager's own point of view.*

Small, Dwight Hervey. *Design for Christian Marriage.* (See Marriage and the Home section.)

### **FOR CHILDREN** (*from about 8 to 13 years*)

Clarkson, E. Margaret. *Susie's Babies.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. 1960. 73 pages.

*A charming story about a mother hamster and the birth of her young that will help parents explain with reverence and wholesome frankness how children are born. Healthy, scriptural orientation.*

Taylor, Kenneth N. *Almost Twelve.* Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers. 1968. Paperback. 64 pages.

*Kenneth N. Taylor's note to parents: "I have told my own children, in various ways and at various ages, about the wonders of human reproduction. This little volume is one of these ways. I hope your children will read it with interest." Excellent illustrations and pictures.*

### **FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT** (Scripturally Oriented)

Brandt, Henry R. *The Struggle for Peace.* Wheaton, Illinois: Scripture Press Publications, Inc. 1965. Paperback. 80 pages.

*A study in mental health. Discovering yourself, dealing with emotions, personal problems in attitudes, etc.*

Sanders, J. Oswald. *A Spiritual Clinic.* Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press. 1958. Paperback. 160 pages.

*Problems of Christian discipleship discussed and some scriptural and practical answers given; such subjects as overcoming tension and strain, guiding principles of conduct, despondency (cause and cure), use of time, conditions of spiritual leadership, etc.*

Tozer, Aiden W. *The Pursuit of God.* Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Christian Publications, Inc. 1958. Paperback. 128 pages.

Helpful in making decisions regarding goals and purposes in life. Practical, clear teaching about how to establish and maintain a personal relationship with God and a daily, uncomplicated walk with Him. Very readable.

# Leaders Guide

## Scriptural Home Seminar

*George Sanchez*

Dear Co-laborer,

As I look at society today I see a great deal of confusion regarding healthy guidelines for marriage and parent-children relationships. Many things are being written on the subject and many ideas are being disseminated. Some of these are good, and others are completely erroneous and misleading. The *Scriptural Home Seminar* seeks to give clear, specific, simple guidelines for these interpersonal relationships.

From my reading in the fields of psychology and family relationships I have found that any helpful principles stated by the author, whether Christian or secular, can be found in essence in the Bible. Therefore, in this course I have gone to the Scriptures for my basic concepts and then added helpful suggestions and information from current psychology. The primary thrust of the course is to establish the concept that the Bible has guidelines for every interpersonal relationship and an answer for every interpersonal conflict in the home. For this reason, this course is called the *Scriptural Home Seminar*.

This series was recorded before a live audience attending the *Seminar* which was presented at [The Navigators Glen Eyrie Conference Center](#), in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I am very thankful to the Lord and give Him the glory for what He has done and how He has used this *Seminar*. My prayer is that this Internet edition will be equally beneficial and useful.

The following suggestions are made in an effort to provide greater facility and more ideas in the use of the *Scriptural Home Seminar*. Many of these are the results of hundreds of presentations in an equal number of homes and churches in the United States and overseas.

Many people find this course a useful tool for evangelism. This is understandable, particularly in parts of the western world, in view of the current interest and great need most families are facing. Therefore, I suggest asking friends and neighbors about their interest and sense of need in the area of their family, and then inviting them to listen to and discuss the information presented in this course.

I have sought to present the Gospel clearly and precisely in the first audio, "The Foundation." You can use it as the initial presentation or use it later in the *Seminar* when interest has been developed by the other material presented.

Should you use the course as an evangelistic tool, I would suggest very strongly that you plan a follow-up Bible study program. This could be one of the [Navigators Bible study series](#) or some other equally effective Bible study program involving a personal

investigation of Scripture. Of course, I urge you to be personally prepared to make a clear and effective follow-up presentation of the Gospel in cases where the *Seminar* stimulates their interest but no decision is made.

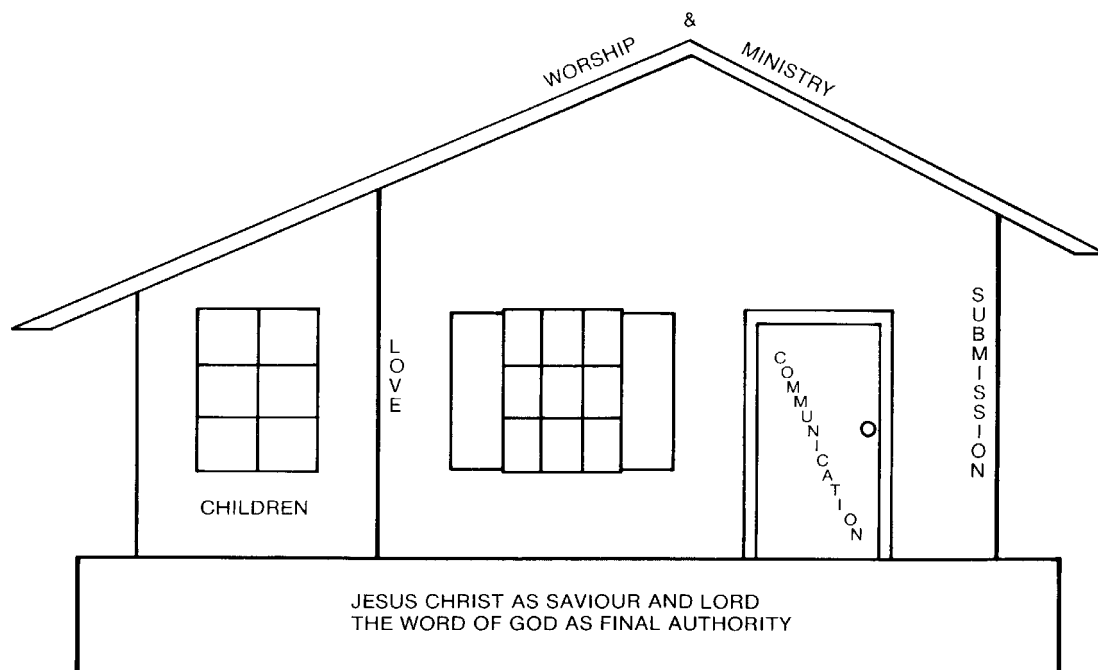
In many cases, gifted teachers and discussion group leaders have used the information on the audios as reference material adapting the material to their own style of presentation and teaching the *Seminar* themselves. This is a good approach and we encourage its use whenever possible. In this case, rather than utilize the illustrations used on the Seminars .mp3 audios, you might develop illustrations which fit your particular style of presentation. Should you feel this is the best way to use the materials, I know that the Lord will honor and bless you as you seek to remain faithful to the biblical principles presented.

The majority of people using this course, however, simply stream the audio (.wma or .mp3 audio) directly from the Internet, or download the .mp3 audio to their own computer, or portable audio device. The .mp3 audios then become the primary source of information. Frankly, I have been delighted and very thankful for the number of people who have been given an extended ministry by using the Internet in this way. Many people have told me that even though they feel they are gifted in leading small groups and could have followed the first suggestion made here, they preferred to use this second method and play the audios themselves. The audios present an objective point of view and another voice of authority on the subject. Whichever method you choose, my prayer is that the Lord will make this a very effective experience.

And now, a suggestion or two on the actual presentation of the *Seminar* when you have a few couples together.

Note the following "house" illustration. This illustration also appears in the student's downloadable workbook. Each student should have his own workbook so he can record his answers and notes freely. The workbook .pdf is a downloadable file in Adobe Acrobat format, and may be viewed with the free [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#). I feel this is the most effective method to get the greatest benefit from the *Seminar*. Notice that the illustration in the workbook does not have the names of the composite parts.

During each session as you give them the names of the respective parts of the illustration discussed that night, they can record them in their workbooks. For example, in the first session they would put in the titles that go in the foundation; in the second session they would put in the responsibility of the husband which is one main wall of the house; in the third session the other wall which is the wife's responsibility, etc. By the time they finish the course, all the names will be in their proper places.



As early in the course as possible I feel it would be very helpful for each couple to take the "Family Quiz" on pages 7 and 8. This will give the couples a platform for applying the principles of the *Seminar* as they progress.

In the workbook there is a question page for each subject ("*Preparatory Study*"). These questions are intended to be answered prior to attending the session of the *Seminar* dealing with that subject. Thus, each person comes prepared to engage meaningfully in a discussion of these questions prior to hearing the audio. In order to lead this discussion effectively, it is important that you, as the leader, listen to the audio a minimum of two times, preferably three, so you are familiar with the material.

Each question should be handled individually providing an opportunity for the participants to answer it adequately. In this way, everyone will be involved in a meaningful discussion and the material will be more personal and applicable because of their involvement.

It is possible that questions will be asked during this discussion period which you, as the leader, will not feel adequately prepared to answer. If, as suggested, you have listened to the audio two or three times, you will be fairly familiar with the material presented. Therefore, any questions coming up during the discussion period that you know will be covered can be left unanswered for the moment. Another discussion session after listening to the audio will provide an opportunity to handle any unresolved questions.

Several sessions do not have questions to answer prior to the session because they are continuations of the previous session. In these sessions I suggest a 15 minute general discussion session covering any new thoughts, ideas or possible questions before playing the next audio. Do not feel you must answer all of the questions that come up. The fact

that the material stimulates thoughts and provokes questions accomplishes a major objective in itself.

The questions are discussed before listening to the audios because most of the questions have been formulated on the basis of the material to be presented on the audio. Listening to the audio first would limit very seriously any discussion on the questions relating to that subject.

You will notice that a broad outline has been provided for each session. This allows the participants to follow the material more easily and to add any notes they desire as they listen to the material.

This material comes to you very prayerfully and carefully prepared. It is my sincere wish that the Lord Jesus Christ be honored in the use of the new *Scriptural Home Seminar*. Another hope and prayer is that homes and families will be strengthened as interpersonal relationships are re-established and strengthened by the application of scriptural principles. May He bless you in your home and family relationships as you study this material and use you as you seek to minister to others in this way. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

It is a privilege to co-labor with you. "May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 15:5,6).

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Sanchez". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.