

# The Healthy Family (Part Two)

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Colossians 3:18-21 "Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be embittered against them. Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they may not lose heart."

## THE APOSTLE PAUL'S FOUR FAMILY HEALTH INDICATORS

- FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #1. Wives Being Subject to Their Husbands (Colossians 3:18)
- FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #2. Husbands Loving Their Wives (Colossians 3: 19)
- FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #3. Children Obeying Their Parents (Colossians 3:20)
- FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #4. Fathers Not Exasperating Their Children (Colossians 3:21)

### Review of Part One

FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #1. Wives Being Subject to Their Husbands (Colossians 3:18)

### Now in Part Two

#### • FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #2.

#### Husbands Loving Their Wives (Colossians 3: 19)

Colossians 3:19 "Husbands, love your wives, and do not be embittered against them."

The Apostle Paul knows how men think...

#### A. The Simple Command      Colossians 3:19 "Husbands, love your wives..."

love = Greek: *agapao* = self-sacrifice/value/place worth on (John 3:16; Ephesians 5:25; etc.)  
(cf. John 3:16; Eph. 5:25 ff.)

Ephesians 5:28-29 "So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church."

Ephesians 5:33 "Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself..."

1 Peter 3:7 "You husbands in the same way, live with *your wives* in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered."

Husbands are commanded to love their wives by...

- valuing them • caring for them • nourishing them • cherishing them • living with them in an understanding way • respecting them as women • honoring them as fellow heirs of Christ.

Not loving our wives will substantially hinder every area of our relationship to God!

#### B. The Substantial Hindrance      Colossians 3:19 "...do not be embittered against them."

*pikraino* = making something bitter/poisonous

**"Do not be poisoned against your wife."**

The poison of ...

- boredom • complacency • focusing on the wrong things • bitterness • unresolved conflict • expressed or repressed anger • indifference • frustration • cold-heartedness

Malachi 2:14 "Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the Lord has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant."

Malachi 2:16 "For I hate divorce," says the LORD, the God of Israel, "and him who covers his garment with wrong," says the LORD of hosts. "So take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously."

### **The Husband's Commandment**

(Based on Malachi 2:14)

#### **"Thou Shall Not Deal Treacherously With Your Wife"**

deal treacherously = Hebrew: *bagad* = to cover with a garment/to bury/to deal deceitfully/to pillage

Admit it...confess it...turn from it...before the sun sets...TODAY!

Colossians 3:8 "But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth."

Colossians 3:12-14 "So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity."

1 Peter 3:8-9 "To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing."

1 Corinthians 16:13 "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."

Real men are...

- alert against dangers
  - stand firm in the faith
  - act like men
  - are strong in the Lord
  - let all they do be done in love

Real men...

- love their wives as Christ loves His Bride, the Church
  - do their best to bring peace into their marriage
  - serve their families as Ambassadors of Jesus Christ

#### **A Word of Encouragement:**

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm *alone*? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three *strands* is not quickly torn apart."

#### **Next week in Part Three:**

- FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #3. Children Obeying Their Parents (Colossians 3:20)
- FAMILY HEALTH INDICATOR #4. Fathers Not Exasperating Their Children (Colossians 3:21)