

Vignette 4: Fighting for Families: Kids!
Spirit Life, Part 15
Slide Notations

Spirit Life Vignettes... *Watching the outflow!* Removing the sep's/expletives/euphemisms! *Watching the "inflow!"* What goes in is what's coming out! *Fighting for our families!* Reestablishing God's norm! *Understanding the church!* Clarifying who & what we are! *Living on the Word of God!* So have nothing to fake!

Fighting for Families! (Recap)... Marriage is under assault in America! An agenda to redefine marriage! A strategic campaign to make marriage less than it is/something it's not! Cynicism that it is relevant/still works! Dramatic rise in cohabitation/disbelief! Enduring "hopeless" situations/beliefs! Increased separations/believers! Godless influences: wrong reasons, legal basis, no regard for God's ways-will-word! Marrieds in valley's of decisions!

Nothing is a greater curse to a nation than the corruption of God's plan for marriage!

As the family goes, so goes the church, as the church goes, so goes the nation and our world!

The foundation of the family is marriage; for the husband it's a Royal Mission!

A man is to lead his wife (& family) by moral influence for high purposes w/sacrificial love, like Jesus!

Marriage for the wife is a Royal Sub-mission; a partner stepping back for the purposes of order & accountability!

Jesus emancipated women and brought equality to every person but not release from God's "order..."

Fighting for Families... We'll call him Christian... what he is... He waited for her a long time... Not as aware of him as he was of her... Twenty something Ken & Barbie couple married here... beautiful wedding... Both were believers... she grew up in church, he followed his parents/salvation... Had three beautiful children... Great job, nice home in the country... ideal/idyllic family!

Somewhere along the way fire began to fade... She got overly involved in the children... He found consolation in his job... She found a new set of friends... He spent more time outdoors... 100's of reasons why they couldn't make it to church anymore... In the valley of decision, they began to talk about their troubled marriage...

There are only two sources of wisdom... *The wisdom from beneath...* There is wisdom that descends not from above, but is worldly, sensual, devilish. *The wisdom from above...* which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. **James 3.15-17**

They chose poorly... Rather than endure the scrutiny of the Lord, hold themselves to the Word... Rather than discover the core problems and initiate the work of restoration... Chose another pathway... world-way... Have some fun spending their money... Spice up their love by spicing up sex life... Meant a new \$10,000 rack for mama to display and for daddy to play...

Never solve internal, spiritual problems with external, unspiritual solutions!

This was not leading by moral influence for high purposes w/sacrificial love, and she was in full agreement!

While it was sensual for a short time, it was also devilish... and there were only three things on his mind...

Stealing the focus that belonged to God, killing their marriage and continuing the destruction w/the kids!

Fighting for Families...Leading up to **E5.22-31** foundation for husbands/wives... is **v1** “Be mimics of God as dear children and walk in love as Christ also loved us and has given Himself for us...” Is it possible to make the right choices/hard times/all the time? Does God? If He does then we can/mimic!

Mimic God? Yes we can! *1. Because we are like God by nature!* He is a Spirit! **J4.24** He made us in His image! **G1.26, 2.7 1Cor15.49ff** (image of earth & heaven) All spirits are of one fabric! “ruach/pneuma” Clean/unclean... saved/unsaved. Our work is to free the new man, created in His image, from the bondage of the old... **Mimic God? Yes we can!** *2. Though on a smaller scale!* He is infinite, and we aren’t, but it doesn’t mean we can’t ever be like Him! A small mirror reflects a sharp image! He is Holy! We perfect ourselves in holiness! He is Truth! We embrace and speak it! He is a Giver! God loves cheerful givers! He is Love! We dwell in Him, loving @other! **Mimic God? Yes we can!** *3. We’re perfect for unlimited improvement!* It’s our duty to transform to God’s standards (not man’s!) **R12.1,2 Mt10.28** Not guilty for what is beyond our current power but for not striving! **E3.20 P3.14,15** It is our best interest to “be perfect as He is perfect!” **Mt 5.48** We may not look like Him now, but “it is not yet been seen what we will be!” **1J3.2** **Mimic God? Yes we can!** *4. But it requires diligence and disciplines of worship, prayer, study and action!* *5. With this one thought in mind... “He is our Dad, we are His children...”* **5.1** Our traits, habits, actions, words, thoughts should prove our relationship! Though fallen, we should be able to prove, not too far from the tree! Our goal: to be linked to His name/nature! Godly child of the God-parent!

The Husband/Wife link to Kids! “Be imitators of God as dear children, loving one another as Christ loved us, giving Himself for us... wives submit to your husbands, husbands love your wives like Christ loved His church; love your wives as yourself, wives reverence your husbands... CHILDREN, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right... **E5**

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and don’t be short with them [Asides 1: There are many men, who outside, are civil and courteous to all; but when at home where they have no one to fear they vent their secret bitterness and frustrations! – Bengel (modernized)]. CHILDREN, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord [Asides 2: Obedience from a child is well pleasing to the Lord when the child is obedient to things non-contradictory to the Lord! But parental influence must be Godly!]. FATHERS, don’t provoke your children to anger, lest they be discouraged. **Col 3.18-21** [Asides 3: Sporadic, mechanical, unloving control; angry/inconsistent discipline, breeds spiritless service or contempt for revolt! Discipline will make them mad, but your love for them will ultimately make them glad!]

As we want our kids to be found in the model of Child Jesus – so we should be found in God’s parent model!

The H/W link to Kids! Want to be someone in the body? An overseer must be the husband of one wife... one that leads well his own house, having his CHILDREN'S obedience with true respect (if you can't handle your own family how can you serve the church of Jesus?)... and let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. **1T3.1-12**

The H/W link to Kids! Wives, submit to your husbands... winning them by your godly lifestyle and by the beauty emanating from within, which is precious to God... Husbands, live with your wives w/understanding, giving honor to your wife as a designed and crafted vessel, as a co-heir of God's grace, so that your prayers aren't hindered. Finally, LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS REAL FAMILY... **1P3.1-8**

The H/W link to Kids! Kids can surprise us! They can go bad anytime they desire! They can turn out good w/no good influence! But kids with Godly parents... parents who decide to go His way for partnering and parenting... Sure have an advantage for kingdom life! **2Kings/2Chron**

Must fight a culture gone toxic H/W/K! Live in/raise them up in the kingdom way – so when our age – will still be here!