

BUILDING GODLY FAMILIES
MARRIAGES
Lesson 7 – Part A

Introduction – With all the drama and conflict surrounding Miss California’s answer about marriage at the recent Miss U.S.A. pageant, it has really brought to the fore-front the whole cultural battle going on in our country. While it’s no surprise that traditional marriage has been under siege, it may surprise many to know that Dr Dobson (head of Focus On The Family) recently stated to his staff, that we’re losing this cultural war. Is there anything we can do? Well, first we must take care of business in our own families and homes. Then in humility, we can ask God to use our testimony and example to give hope to others.

***IN THIS CLASS WE WILL DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING POINTS...**

- 4 Reasons Why The Flame Stops Burning
- 4 Logs We Can Throw On The Fire To Stoke It

Genesis 2:20-24 – “20...for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he as sleeping, he took on e of the man’s ribs and closed up the place with flesh. 22Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and He brought her to the man. 23The man said, ‘This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, for she was taken out of man.’ 24For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.”

1. REASON #1: WE STOP PURSUING → LOG #1: KEEP PURSUING!

Prov 18:22 – “He who **finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord.”*

- A. MEN: CONQUER, BAG IT, AND QUIT**
- B. WOMEN: STOP DOING THE THINGS THAT ATTRACTED THAT MAN**
- C. MAKE A STUDY OF WHAT MAKES THE OTHER TICK**

2. REASON #2: WE NO LONGER PRIZE → LOG #2: PRIZE!

Mt 13:44 – “The kingdom of heaven is like **treasure hidden in the field. When a man **found it, he hid it** again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and **bought that field**.”*

- A. THE “TREASURE” COMES WITH “A FIELD”**
- B. THE FIELD MAY CHANGE, BUT IT WILL STILL ALWAYS BE A FIELD**
- C. FOCUS AGAIN ON THE TREASURE**

3. **REASON #3: WE MAKE OTHER PRIORITIES → LOG #3: PRIORITIZE!**

**1 Cor 7:2-5 – “2... each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. 3The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. 4The wife’s body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband’s body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. 5Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”*

A. SECOND HIGHEST DIVORCE RATE – THOSE MARRIED 25+ YEARS

B. DIFFERENT PRIORITIES HAVE LED THEM DOWN DIFFERENT PATHS

C. EVEN JESUS, DYING ON THE CROSS, DIDN’T FORGET HIS FAMILY

4. **REASON #4: WE DON’T PROTECT → LOG #4: PROTECT!**

**1 Cor 6:18 – “Flee from sexual immorality...”*

1 Cor 10:12-13 – “12So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall. 13No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. **But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.”*

A. WE CAN FALL (v.12)

- Know Your Vulnerabilities
- Guys: Lust, Flattery
- Ladies: Love, Romance, Touch

B. BUT WE DON’T HAVE TO (v.13)

CONCLUSION: The world has all but given up on traditional marriage, and the church hasn’t helped much. Again, before we try to fix the world, it’s time to take care of matters at home!