

Difficult to rise above Early Training

- *Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it. Pr 22:6*
- Much more likely to become a Christian if raised in a Christian home.
- Sadly works the other way as well. Those of us trained up in the way we should not go also find that it is hard to depart from it.
- Most parents just train their children with their own convictions, likes, dislikes, etc.
- The training may be no more than example, but has a profound impact on the outlook of a child.

We Call it Heredity and Environment

- Heredity = the proclivities and responses based on a likeness to our mother and father. More than just hair color or facial features.
- Often their strengths, weaknesses and skills.
- Environment = the examples from parents and others such as language, food preferences, and other bad or good habits.
- For many these =
- *aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 1 Peter 1:14-19*
- *vain manner of life (asv) futile way of life (nas)*
- Can be global, but often it is partial.

Identifying “*Aimless Conduct*”

- Often so ingrained we don't see it. As a “*chip off the old block,*” with the “*apple not falling far from the tree.*” Simply feels natural / normal
- Often as we age, we realize, I am just like my father and just like my mother
- *as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." ... conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;*
- We have a new “holy” Father in heaven: *Be holy.*

The Solution: Prove Everything!

- *do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Rom. 12:2*
- *Test all things; hold fast what is good. 22
Abstain from every form of evil. 1Th. 5:21-22*
- Can't really trust anything we know, feel, do or respond to. Don't know where it originated.
- Must test and prove. If it is good, we hold fast to it. If it is evil, we refuse to conform, abstain and are transformed.
- Extremely difficult, exhausting

Inner working of Husband/Wife Relat.

- Conformed to this world.
- Empty(vain, futile, aimless) manner of life handed down from our fathers.
- Transformed by renewing our minds.
- Not conformed to former lusts
- Holy as He is holy
- Holding fast to the good
- Abstaining from every form of evil?
- Have we ever really looked at it to see?

Our True Role Model

- *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the **husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church**; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just **as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.** 25 Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,** 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, Eph 5:22-28*
- Simple to understand, nothing hard or complex.
- But is not natural and ∴= very difficult to change.

Our True Role Model

- Wives:
- submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.
- husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church;
- just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.
- Husbands, love your wives,
- just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,
- No father or mother can perfectly live this in front of their children ... Jesus and the church are the only true role models to compare ourselves.

Husbands

- Love your wives:
- *Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Cor 13:4-7 (ESV)*
- Prove what is the will of God. Hold fast to the good. Be holy as I am holy.
- This is a perfect standard to judge all interaction of a husband with his wife. If he falls short ... repent, confess, and bring fruits worthy of repent.

Husbands

- Love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her: (started in Heaven)
- *Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; 8 and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient (even) unto death, yea, the death of the cross. Phil. 2:5-8 (ASV)*
- Husbands must have mind of Christ for wife.

Husbands

- Jesus “*gave Himself for her*” even in heaven
- In heaven, “*He existed in the form of God.*”
- But He did not grasp that. All His resources, out of care and concern for His church used for her.
- *He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant.*
- When the greatest sacrifice was required of Him
- He “*humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death.*”
- ***Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,***

Husbands Love Just as Christ Loved

- Jesus gave up all the benefits of His power, then gave up His life to serve his wife (the church)
- Husbands to do exactly the same thing (just as).
- God joins a man and woman as one flesh, is mirrored after Christ and the church.
- As Christ emptied Himself – so must a husband.
- Just as Jesus, all he possesses used to serve wife.
- Husbands now *“look out not just for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of”* his wife. Every husband must regard his wife as *“more important than”* himself. (Phil. 2:1-11).

- Husband was made “*the head of the wife as Christ the head of the church*” for this purpose.
- Not a position of dominion. He doesn’t have a slave to lord over and command.
- *26 Rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them... Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. 27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave —28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*
- Inspired commentary on husbands role. Mt 20:

The Husband is a Leader

- But leadership is a position of service. All husbands must sacrifice and serve his wife.
- Thus in a home where Christ is Lord, the wife submits to her husband in everything, but the husband never demands anything not in her best interest.
- How far do we carry this?
- As far as we can.
- If Jesus could empty Himself and come to die for His church, what sacrifices should we not make for our wives. k

Good Husband Washes His Wife's Feet

● *Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. Jn 13:12-17*

● Husbands love your wives as Christ the church

Husbands Love Wives as Own Body

- *So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. Eph 5:28-30*
- All a husband does for his own comfort and success now transferred to wife.
- Once married and joined together by God, being one flesh means she has become as important and he cherishes her as his own body.