

## God's Blueprint For The Family The Chief Cornerstone

Matthew 19:1-11

1 Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these sayings, that He departed from Galilee and came to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. 2 And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them there.

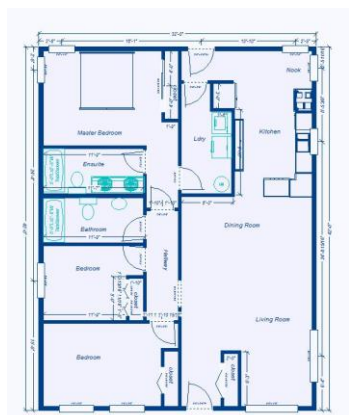
3 The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?"

4 And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

7 They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?"

8 He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. 9 And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

10 His disciples said to Him, "If such is the case of the man with his wife, it is better not to marry."  
NKJV



A blue print is what you would use if you were building a house. Before you build the house, you have an architect draw up blue prints that the builder will follow.

God is the architect of the blueprints for the family. The family was His idea. He has drawn up a blueprint for the family that is revealed to us in His Word. This blueprint for the family begins with His blueprint for marriage because marriage is the first formation of a new family. You don't start

having a family when you have children. You start having a family when you get married. Having children do not make you a family. Children are an extension of your family.

The Pharisees were the religious leaders of Israel. They were the spiritual shepherds of the Jews. They had been entrusted with the laws of God. But they rejected God's blueprint for the family and created their own.

Their blueprint for the family included divorce for any reason. This was a great arrangement for them as men. They could put away their wife for any reason and be free of any responsibility for her.

Isn't it true that when we reject God's blueprints and come up with our own, our blueprints always are self-serving? This is the nature of man.

Jesus told the Pharisees that their blue print for the family was wrong. He told them God's original blueprint for the family.

- One man and one woman
- One flesh
- One life time

The only legitimate reason for divorce was if your wife violated the term of one flesh.

The Pharisees thought they had it right but they had it wrong. They thought that what they were doing was following God but they were wrong. They even based their blueprint on scriptures, but they were wrong.

Isn't it true that when we are being self-serving, we can be very deceptive and we can be easily deceived?

Now the Pharisees had a decision to make. Would they believe and follow Jesus or would they continue in their sin?

It was such a blessing for these Jews to have this opportunity to repent. So many people were not giving this opportunity. So many people were walking in darkness without any light.

The Pharisees were not given this opportunity to repent because they deserved it. They had done nothing to earn it. In fact, if anything they deserved to be cut off from God. But God in His mercy chose to give them this opportunity to repent.

It is such a blessing to know the truth about God and His Word. We do not deserve to know the truth. God would be justified if He never spoke to us. We are such rebels by nature. But God in His mercy has brought you here today to hear the truth and to give you the opportunity to repent.

The Pharisees had a choice to make. Would they believe and follow Jesus? Or would they reject Jesus and the truth that He spoke?

Today, we have that same choice. Will you believe and follow Jesus or will you reject Jesus and the truth He is speaking to you?

Now why should the Pharisees believe Jesus and follow Jesus?



If we were building a building made of cut stone, the most important stone in the building would be the first stone that was laid and it would be called the chief cornerstone.

The chief cornerstone determines the direction that the other stones will be laid. All of the other stones are laid in reference to the chief cornerstone.

The prophets of God in the old testament said God would send a messiah for the Jews who would be the chief cornerstone for His Spiritual Kingdom and house on earth. (Psalms 118:22)

The prophets said that this messiah would be born of a virgin and be God in human flesh, lead the Jews to the truth about God and eternity, suffer and die for the sins of the nation and the world, rise from the dead, ascend unto heaven, and then return one day to rule the world.

A man named Paul was a Pharisee and He believed that Jesus was the chief cornerstone who fulfilled the words of the prophets. He became a missionary for Jesus and planted many churches.

He wrote these words to the church at Ephesus.

[Eph. 2:19-22](#)

[19](#) Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, [20](#) having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, [21](#) in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, [22](#) in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. NKJV

But for most of the Pharisees Jesus became a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.

A man named Peter was a Jew who also believed that Jesus was the chief cornerstone who fulfilled the words of the prophets. He also became a missionary for Jesus and planted many churches.

In 1 Peter 2:4-10 he wrote these words that revealed the choice that the majority of the Pharisees made.

[1 Peter 2:4-10](#)

[4](#) Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, [5](#) you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. [6](#) Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."

[7](#) Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient,

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone,"

[8](#) and "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

NKJV

The word offense in verse 8 is the Greek word skandalon from which we get our word scandalous. The teaching of Jesus was considered scandalous and heretical by the majority of the Pharisees.

In Matthew 19:1-11 Jesus gave them God's blueprints for the family and they considered those blueprints to be scandalous. They rejected Him as their chief cornerstone and maintained their own blue prints for the family.

Whose blueprints for the family will you follow? It is a decision that all of us will make if we decide to get married and have a family.

Will it be yours? Your ideas?

Will it be your family traditions?


Will it be your peers? Your culture?

Will it be your religion?

Will it be Jesus and His blueprints for the family?

Will Jesus be your cornerstone?

**No Other  
CORNERSTONE**



- **Chief Cornerstone** – placed at an extreme corner, the corner foundation stone. *Thayer*
- ...concept is derived from the first stone set in the construction of a masonry foundation, important since all other stones will be set in reference to this stone, thus determining the position of the entire structure. *Wikipedia.com*
- **Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone! Ephesians 2:20**

The majority of the Pharisees rejected Jesus. What are you going to do?

Some of you have been like the Pharisees and have followed your own blueprint for the family. How has that been working out for you?

Some of you have even divorced for any reason.

God has brought you here today and revealed the truth to you because of His mercy. You certainly don't deserve this opportunity to repent.

The good news is no matter how wrong you have been in your blueprint for your family, if God shows you His mercy and reveals the truth to you and if you will repent and receive Jesus as your chief cornerstone and follow His blueprint for the family, God can make lemonade out of lemon. He can heal the broken hearted. He can set the captives free. He can give you beauty for ashes. He can make you into trees of righteousness. He can rebuild the old ruins. He can reverse the desolation of many generations.

Will you believe and follow Jesus? Will you receive Jesus as your chief cornerstone?

To follow God's blueprint for the family both a husband and his wife must receive Jesus as their cornerstone for their faith and family and follow Him.

As far as we know, Peter was the only one of the 12 disciples of Jesus that was married. When the disciples of Jesus heard His blueprint for the family, they said...  
"it is better not to marry."

That is sad to me. Why would they say that unless they saw so many married people who were miserable?

Some things never change. A lot of the most miserable people I know are married people. I see very few married couples who grow more and more in love with each other over time. This is a very poor example to the next generation of young people.

The good news is if you will follow God's blueprint for your family, you can experience God in your marriage in such a way that your marriage will bring glory to Jesus Christ and be a testimony to this generation.

God has brought you here today and revealed the truth to you because of His mercy. You certainly don't deserve this opportunity to repent.

As a married couple, will you believe and follow Jesus? Will you receive Jesus as your chief cornerstone?

Some of you have never been married. God has brought you here today and revealed the truth to you because of His mercy. He has shown you His mercy by revealing the truth to you before you get married so that you can follow His blueprint for the family from your wedding day.

**BE THE  
TYPE OF  
PERSON  
YOU WANT TO  
MEET**

Trust God to arrange the meeting!

Learn to be content in Jesus. If He withholds something good from you it is because He has something better! Don't trade God's best what is good!

As a single person, will you believe and follow Jesus? Will you receive Jesus as your chief cornerstone and follow His blueprint for the family?

Invitation

I will repent for following my own blueprints for my life and for the family.

I will receive Jesus as my chief cornerstone and follow Him.

I will be the person I want to meet

I will trust Jesus to arrange the meeting

I will be content in Jesus

In God's blue print for the family, there are 4 cornerstones. In this series called "God's Blueprint For The Family" we will be learning about these cornerstones and how to build our families upon God's cornerstones.