

God's Blueprint For The Family The Moral and Social Responsibilities

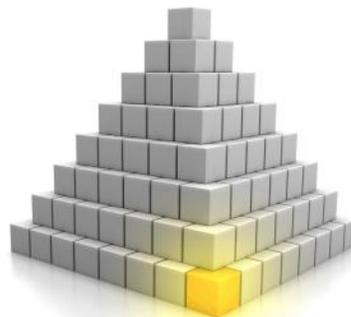


Last week we studied the 4th cornerstone in God's Blueprint for the Family, the love of God.

The love of God is....

A selfless love, a love that is passionately committed to serving the well-being of the other.

The way that the love of God is exercised between a husband and a wife is by fulfilling specific moral and social responsibilities to one another. These moral and social responsibilities are found in God's Word.



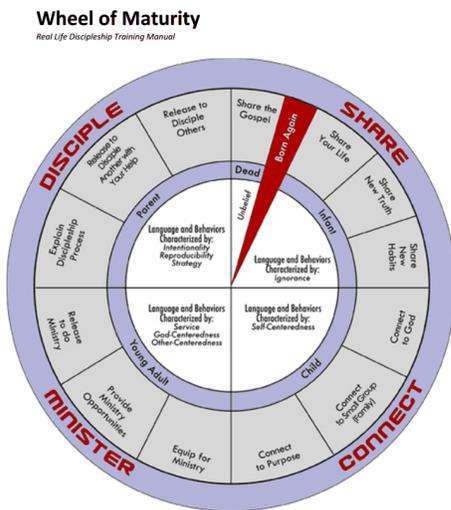
Each one of these moral and social responsibilities is like a cut stone that is being added to the cornerstones in God's blueprint for the family.

As each stone is laid the family becomes a greater habitation of God in the Spirit.

When I became a Christian I did not know God's Word and I did not know the moral and social responsibilities that a husband and wife should fulfill to one another. No one had ever taught me what they were.

To learn the social and moral responsibilities that a husband and a wife should fulfill to one another, I had to study the following passages of scripture.

[Ephesians 5:22-33](#); [Ephesians 6:1-4](#); [Colossians 3:18-21](#); [1 Peter 3:1-12](#); and [Titus 2:1-8](#).



When I first became a Christian I had never witnessed a Christian husband and a Christian wife fulfill all of the moral and social responsibilities to one another. I did not know what it looked like. I needed to see it in action. I needed to be discipled. I needed someone who was doing it to share life with me, share truth with me, share new habits with me, and answer my questions.

The following is what I have learned from studying the scripture and from those who discipled me.

Both a husband and a wife express God's love to one another by honoring one another.

As Christians we are called by God to honor all people. (1 Peter 2:17)

[1 Peter 2:17](#)

[17 Honor all people....](#)

[NKJV](#)

But the way we should go about expressing that honor is not always the same. It changes based on the position, condition, and situation that people are in at the time.

A husband honors his wife by....

- **Following Jesus**
Seek Jesus daily
Learn His Word
Be like Jesus
Be her chief spiritual leader
- **Forgiving her**
- **Seeking forgiveness**



- **Honoring the relationship**
With your friendship
With your words
With your affections
With your time
With your decisions
With your money
With your eyes
- **Knowing her**
Study her
Make time to know her
Learn to ask the right questions
Learn to listen and understand what she is saying
- **Working to the best of his ability to provide for her needs and wants**
- **Seeking her counsel**
- **Honoring her femininity**
Honor God's image in her
Handle her with gentleness
Have good manners
Praise her femininity

The wife expresses her love for her husband by honoring him.

She honors him by....

- **Following Jesus**

Seek Jesus daily
Learn His Word
Be like Jesus
Be his chief spiritual influence

- **Forgiving him**
- **Seeking forgiveness**
- **Honoring the relationship**
 - With your friendship
 - With your words
 - With your affections
 - With your time
 - With your decisions
 - With your money
 - With your eyes
- **Knowing him**
 - Study him
 - Make time to know him
 - Learn to ask the right questions
 - Learn to listen and understand what he is saying
- **Working to the best of her ability to provide for his needs and wants**
- **Seeking his counsel**
- **Respecting his masculinity**
 - Honor God's image in him
 - Respect his authority
 - Have good manners
 - Boast about him to others

The love of God is....

A selfless love, a love that is passionately committed to serving the well-being of the other.

Fulfilling each one of these moral and social responsibilities serves the well-being of your husband or your wife.

- **It makes them feel loved.**
This creates emotional intimacy.
- **It creates a secure environment for raising children.**
Children feel secure when they see their parents love one another in these ways.
- **It honors God.**
Your marriage becomes an example of the resurrection of Jesus and the love of Jesus for His church.

Being selfless in a relationship with God and others is difficult but not impossible. It is made possible by....

- Receiving Jesus
- Knowing who you are in Christ
- Being filled with His Spirit

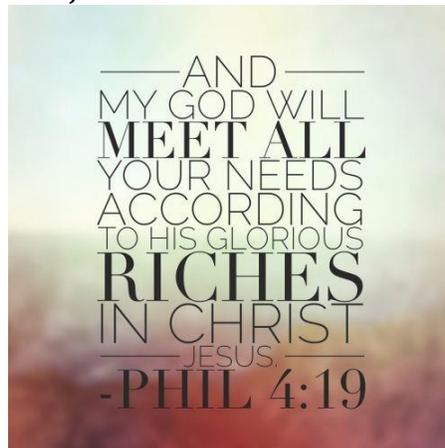
When you are filled with the Spirit of Jesus you can focus on serving the well-being of others, even when they are your enemies!

Without Jesus you will not be able to overcome the flesh and its desires. How do you know what is the flesh and its desires?

The flesh and its desires are always self-centered and self-focused.

You may be thinking, “what about me? If I am selfless always focusing on the well-being of others, who will meet my needs.”

The truth of who we are in Christ Jesus sets us free from this concern. (Phil. 4:19)

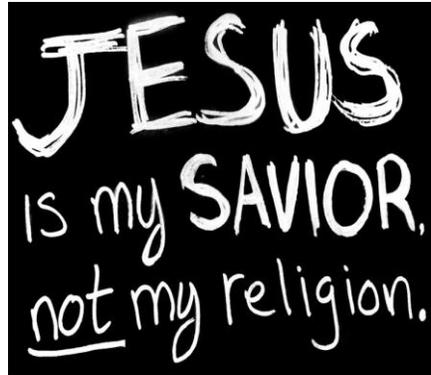


We do not have one physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual need that Christ has not already met. For example,

- We are significant in Christ
- We are secure in Christ

If my spouse is doing something that makes me feel insignificant or insecure, if I will look to Christ and His Word to meet these needs in me, I can forgive them and focus on their well-being rather than my own.

As we abide in Christ and the truth of His Words, we experience freedom from the flesh and we are able to fulfill His commands to love one another.



Is He yours?

Will you receive Jesus Christ?

Will you receive who you are in Christ?

Will you be filled with the Holy Spirit?