

Series: Focusing on *Your* Family
Message: God's Blueprint for the Home
Text: Ephesians 5:21-6:4 (AM 6/11/17)

When you build a home, you need a good blueprint. The blueprints guide the builder in laying the foundation, erecting the building, and finishing the inside. When a couple weds and begins a life together, they need a blueprint for building their home. You can find books on Amazon that offer helpful suggestions for constructing a family but none are as comprehensive and infallible as God's Word. The Apostle Paul, in his book to the Church at Ephesus, offers insight into constructing healthy marriages and families.

I. Husbands Cherish Your Wives (21, 25, 28, 33)

Fathers are the Pastors of the homes

- A husband sacrifices – “As Christ...gave Himself for her” (25)
- A husband shields – “As Christ also loved the Church...” (25)
- A husband serves – “Nourishes and cherishes (her)...” (29)

II. Wives Champion Your Husbands (21, 22-24, 33)

Mothers are the Patrons of the homes

- A wife submits – “Wives submit to you own husbands...” (22)
- A wife supports – “Let the wife...respect her husband” (33)
- A wife serves – “As the Church is subject to Christ...wives” (24)

III. Children Conform to Your Parents (6:1-4)

Children are the Products of the homes

- *Parents* raise your children – “Bring them up...” (4)
- *Children* respect your parents – “Obey your parents...” (1-2)
- *Families* enjoy the reward – “That it may be well with you...” (3)

Application to life: The carnage of ruined marriages and dysfunctional families litter our Churches and Communities. It breaks the heart of God Who ordained marriage and family from the foundation of the world. We struggle when we stray from God's blueprint. The adversary has deceived our culture who now embraces *counterfeit* models for marriage. We are only beginning to see the *devastation* that will come if society does not return to God's blueprint for marriage and families. The Father longs to bless your marriage and prosper your family (6:3). *Embrace* and *employ* His blueprint.