

## Relationships Within the Home

- I. Remember the goal of this study
  - A. Called to live in freedom and abundance
  - B. That we might reflect the glory of God
- II. Two Questions
  - A. Are you free?
  - B. Are you living the abundant life?
  - C. Examining - Five Key Areas of Our Lives - Asking these two questions
  - D. Can know in every area God wants us Free, Filled, and Fruitful - 3 f's
    - 1. Health
    - 2. Immediate Family - as in who you live with
    - 3. Vocation - what you do
    - 4. Relationships - those outside your home
    - 5. Finances
  - E. Have discussed health
- III. Immediate Family - Within the Home
  - A. Self
  - B. Husband/Wife
  - C. Children
  - D. Parents
  - E. Siblings
  - F. Other

#### IV. Self

**1 Corinthians 7:6-9**, “Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. <sup>7</sup> I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. <sup>8</sup> To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. <sup>9</sup> But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.”

**1 Corinthians 7:25-35** “Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. <sup>26</sup> I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. <sup>27</sup> Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. <sup>28</sup> But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman[i] marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that. <sup>29</sup> This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup> and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, <sup>31</sup> and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.” <sup>32</sup> I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, <sup>34</sup> and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. <sup>35</sup> I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.”

**1 Corinthians 7:39-40**, “A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord. <sup>40</sup> Yet in my judgment she is happier if she remains as she is. And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.”

**Matthew 19:10-12**, “The disciples said to him, “If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.” <sup>11</sup> But he said to them, “Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. <sup>12</sup> For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it.”

## **A. Gifts**

1. Experienced life
  - a) Wisdom
  - b) Knowledge
  - c) Skill and ability
2. Time
  - a) Spend with God
  - b) Works of service
3. Focus
  - a) Prayer
  - b) Control over environment

## **B. Traps**

1. Self absorption - Selfishness
2. Narrow vision - small world
3. Sense of futility
4. Tired, burn out, been there done that
5. Laziness - excuse for non service

**1 Peter 4:1-2**, *“Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.”*

**Romans 8:5**, *“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.”*

**2 Corinthians 5:15**, *“and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”*

**1 Timothy 5:3-16**, *“Honor widows who are truly widows. <sup>4</sup> But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God. <sup>5</sup> She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, <sup>6</sup> but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives. <sup>7</sup> Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach.*

### C. Advice

1. Live for God and others
2. Do not be self focused
3. Believe God for the three f's
  - a) Freedom, filling, fruitfulness
4. Be relevant
5. Remember God meets your needs as you meet others

**1 Kings 17:8-15**, *“Then the word of the Lord came to him, <sup>9</sup> “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup> So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup> And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup> And she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” <sup>13</sup> And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’” <sup>15</sup> And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup> The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.”*

**Luke 21:3**, “And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them.”

**Titus 2:21-5**, “But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup> Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. <sup>3</sup> Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, <sup>4</sup> and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, <sup>5</sup> to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.”

**Colossians 3:23**, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men”