Marriage and Family Study  
Priority of human relationships  
10/5/11

I. HUSBAND WIFE RELATIONSHIP  
II. PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP  
III. BROTHER/ SISTER RELATIONSHIP  
(Within the Body of Christ)  
IV. CHURCH TO WORLD RELATIONSHIP  
(Witness)

God has established a priority of relationships that reflect order, when followed according to His design yield peace, harmony, and the fruit of righteousness. If rearranging it alters this design of relationship priority, and confusion, disharmony, misunderstanding, and deterioration will result.

I. The husband wife relationship.

A. Gen. 1:26-28: 26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
   a. to reflect the Glory of God
   b. to have co-dominion over God’s creation
   c. to raise a Godly heritage

B. Gen 2:24-25: 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.
   a. to leave mother and father
   b. to cleave to one another
   c. to become one
   d. to be transparent before each other
II. The parent child relationship.

A. responsibilities of parents Deut. 6:4-7: 4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! 5 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

a. The love of the Lord.
   1. The parent’s relationship with the Lord
   2. Lead by example
   3. Instruct children to God’s standard
   4. All of life provides the opportunity to instruct

b. The training and admonition of the Lord. Eph. 6:4: 4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

   1. Prohibition of provocation by father
   2. Responsibility of father to
      a. train
      b. teach
      c. admonish
III. The brother/sister relationship.

A. Mt 12:46-50  
46 “While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You."  
48 But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?"  
49 And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers!  
50 "For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

   a. The Lord identifies those who are truly members of His family.  
      1. those who do the will of the Father in heaven

B. Ro 12:4-5  
4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,  
5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

Eph 4:11-16  
11And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

   a. members of the “body” rely on one another  
      1. work together interdependently  
   b. the body is to do the work of ministry  
   c. edify one another unto maturity  
   d. demonstrated by love
IV. Church to the world relationship

A. John 13:34-35  
34 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”
   a. testimony to the world

B. Mt 28:18-20  
18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.
   a. disciple maker

C. Ro 10:13-15  
13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." 14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"
   a. a preacher of the Gospel

D. Eph. 4: 17-24  
17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, 18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; 19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But you have not so learned Christ, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.
   a. walk in newness of life
HOMEWORK
1. Continue to apply the principles of Scripture so that you will grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ Jesus the Lord.
2. Examine your life to determine if you have established a proper priority of human relationships.
   a. If you have continue to maintain that proper priority.
   b. If you have not, work on establishing a proper priority.
3. Evaluate each of the main points and list what you need to work on, change or rearrange in order to comply with Scripture.
   a. husband/wife relationship
      1. 
      2. 
      3. 
   b. parent/child relationship
      1. 
      2. 
      3. 
   c. brother/ sister relationship
      1. 
      2. 
      3. 
   d. church/world relationship
      1. 
      2. 
      3. 
4. Which of these four areas do you think you need to work on the most? Why?