

Cherokee Hills Summer Series

Physical Family Mimics Spiritual Family (Mt 7:8-11)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
 - a. Greeting...
2. My topic
 - a. "Spiritual Families Must Model Themselves After God & His Children"
3. The family is at best "under attack" and at worst "being destroyed" as we look across the world over especially here in America.
 - a. The family has been systematically pulled apart, however there are indications that 13 to 24 year olds are recognizing the need to family.
 - b. A survey was conducted by MTV and the Associated Press recently. The question that was asked is "What makes you happy?" It was open so they could answer however they wanted. (<http://www.allprodad.com/viewpod/2011-06-01>)
 - i. Most would think...sex, drugs, friends, music...
 - ii. The number one answer "spending time with family."
4. It would appear that now is the time to let young men and women know how God expects families to act. To let parents know how to biblically parent.
 - a. Only God can tell us how to make the most out of this life and that includes the family.
 - b. The best part about the family is that God has shown us how a biblical family should be run ie He has given us the perfect pattern to follow.
5. Let us look this evening at that pattern God has so wonderfully given us.

I. God Takes Care Of His Family

- A. He shows us how to care for the physical needs
 1. He knows our physical needs and "provides" for them.
 - i. **Mt 6:25-33** "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? 28 "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; 29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

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2. He knows our physical needs and provides "good things" for them.
 - i. **Mt 7:8-11** "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"
 - a. **I Ti 4:4** "For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving" (ESV)
 - ii. Thus families are to provide for their physical needs.
 - a. Husbands are to be the main financial support.
 1. In other words they are not to be the stay at home dads.
 - i. Look throughout biblical history and see when a wife was the main "breadwinner." That's not cultural that's biblical.
 - a. **I Ti 5:8** "But if anyone does not provide for **his own**, and especially for those of **his household, he has denied the faith** and is worse than an unbeliever."
 - ii. Recent studies have shown that women/moms are now going against the femi-nazi movement.
 - a. Geoff Dench a leading sociologist asked a bunch of questions in the annual British Social Attitudes survey. His research found that "The number of mothers with children under four who thought that family life would suffer if women worked full-time fell in the years before Tony Blair took office, dropping from 43 per cent in 1990 to 21 per cent in 1998. But by 2002 it was rising and in 2006 had soared to 37 per cent." ("What women want in 2010: A husband who'll be the main breadwinner" <http://tinyurl.com/yf68jpr>)
 - b. Wives are to be the main home makers.
 1. Before the women here try and string me up let me say this that there is nothing wrong with a woman/wife working outside of the home (**Pr 31:16-18, 24**), however her main responsibility is making house into a home. This should be her first focus, then outside interests.
 - i. **Ti 2:4-5; Pr 31:15, 21, 27-28**

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- c. This cannot be reversed, and the home function biblically as it should. We are not created to function in such a way.
 - 1. **I Co 11:3** "But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God."
 - d. This is not an inequality thing.
 - 1. **Ga 3:28** "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."
 - e. This is simply a biblical role we are told to follow so that we will have the very best life here on earth and give ourselves the opportunity for heaven.
 - 1. **Jn 14:15** "If you love me you will keep my commandments."
- B. He shows us how to care for our spiritual needs
- 1. He knows our spiritual **needs** and provides for them. Man has a built/created in such a way as to "need" to know certain things. We were created with a soul & thus we search out certain questions like...
 - i. "Who am I?"
 - a. We are God's creation/children
 - 1. **Gn 1:27** "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."
 - 2. **Ps 139:13** "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb."
 - ii. "Why am I here?"
 - a. To be loved by God.
 - 1. **Ro 5:8** "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
 - 2. **Jn 3:16** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."
 - b. To love God
 - 1. **Lk 10:27** "So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'""
 - iii. "Is there something after this life?"
 - a. **Jn 14:2-4** "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know."

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2. Families are to provide for their spiritual needs.
 - i. Husbands/fathers are to be the spiritual leaders of the home. They will be judged by whether or not they fulfilled their role.
 - a. **Ep 6:4** "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."
 - b. **Pr 22:6** "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."
 1. This is a guaranteed probability not promise.
 - ii. Wives/mothers are to be the spiritual cultivators/teachers of the home.
 - a. They too are to train but their focus should be on the spiritual teachings of the home.
 1. **Pr 6:20** "My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching." (ESV)

[God knows our physical and spiritual needs. Families need to know their physical & spiritual needs as well.]

II. God Trains His Family

- A. He trains His family in righteousness.
 1. God has trained His children how to be modest.
 - i. **Gn 3:21** "Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them."
 - ii. **Ex 28:42-43** "And you shall make for them linen trousers to cover their nakedness; they shall reach from the waist to the thighs. 43 They shall be on Aaron and on his sons when they come into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister in the holy place, that they do not incur iniquity and die. It shall be a statute forever to him and his descendants after him."
 - iii. **Ek 16:8** "When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine," says the Lord GOD."
 - iv. There are not enough husbands & fathers training their families in modesty today.
 - a. Husbands/Fathers if you wife or children are dressed in such a way as to leave no imagination as to what they have to offer underneath their clothes then they should not be in them.
 - b. Wives/mothers that goes for you as well. This is not just a female problem.
 1. Don't be counted as one that has caused another to stumble.

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2. God has trained His family how to give of their financial means.
 - i. Under the Old Law they tithed.
 - a. **Lv 27:30-32**
 - ii. Under the Law of Christ we are taught how to give as well.
 - a. **I Co 16:1-2**
 - iii. Husbands/Fathers & Wives/Mothers should be training daily their children and each other on the importance of giving of our financial means & being good stewards of it.
 - a. If under the Old Law they gave at least 10% should we not give more considering we are under a better law?
 1. **He 8:6** "But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises."
 - b. If it is all God's anyway, & it is, we are simply stewards & we should not be so attached to it anyway.
 1. **I Ch 29:14** "But who am I, and who are my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You."
3. God has trained His family how to give of their physical means.
 - i. We are to be servants of the our great & awesome God because we were bought at a most precious price.
 - a. **I Co 6:20** "For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."
 1. **Ac 20:28** "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."
 2. **I Co 7:23** "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men."
 - b. **Lk 17:10** "So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.' ""
 - ii. We are trained to take up our cross in servitude.
 - a. **Lk 9:23** "Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."
 - iii. Families should be training one another in being servants.
 - a. **Mt 7:12** "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

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4. God has trained His family in every area that leads to godliness.
 - i. **II Pt 1:3** "as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue"
 - ii. **II Ti 3:16-17** "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."
 - iii. We as a family must do the same.
- B. He trains them in discipline
 1. God disciplines those whom He loves and thus training them.
 - i. **He 12:6, 10** "For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives...10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness."
 2. Spouses & Parents need not be afraid of discipline.
 - i. Husbands if your wife sins tell her & correct it.
 - ii. Wives if your husband sins tell him & correct it.
 - a. **Mt 18:15** "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother."
 - iii. Parents train your children through discipline & correct them.
 - a. **Pr 22:15** "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him."
 1. Same chapter as **Pr 22:6**...
 - b. **Pr 13:24** "He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly."

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- iv. I asked a friend of mine that has a boy and a girl both teenagers how his kids turned out as great as they did. His daughter is 16 and we were there a week and never once did she even talk back to her dad or mom but was very respectful as was their son who was a few years younger but behaved the same. He said "You just have to not care what anyone thinks and do what God says about disciplining your kids which can only be fully accomplished by using the preverbal rod."
 - a. This is not abuse it is love.
 - b. How many kids today even in the church would be put to death if we lived under the Old Law now?
 - 1. **Lv 20:9** "For everyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother. His blood shall be upon him."
 - 2. "curseth. The term yekallel signifies not only to curse, but to speak contemptuously, disrespectfully, or to make light of a person: so that all speeches which have a tendency to lessen our parents in the eyes of others, or to render their judgment, piety, etc., suspected or contemptible, is here included..." (Canne, J., Browne, Blayney, B., Scott, T., & Torrey, R. (2009). The Treasury of Scripture knowledge (Le 20:9). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.)

[God has trained His family in righteousness let us follow His example in ours!!!]

CONCLUSION

- 1. Albert Einstein once said "Setting an example is not the main means of influencing another, it is the only means." (<http://tinyurl.com/3h29762>)
 - a. God has given us the perfect example of how a family should biblically be.
 - i. The question is...are we going to follow it?