

BIBLICAL FAMILIES

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Suggest usual progressive idea that life and values are fluid

Plural suggests that there are a diversity of arrangements that are families.

“MODERN FAMILIES”



- ▶ Married couple families are a smaller percentage of households 38%
- ▶ Only 2/3 of children live with two parents.
- ▶ 40% of children are born outside of a marriage
- ▶ Only half of adults are married
- ▶ 8% of couples are cohabiting
- ▶ Increasingly multicultural due to adoption
- ▶ Increasingly blended due to divorce and remarriages

CHANGES IN “MODERN FAMILIES”

- ▶ Affective Individualism focuses marriage on self
- ▶ Now viewed as personally defined
- ▶ A variety of definitions

CHANGES IN “MODERN FAMILIES”



The family is a group of individuals with a continuing legal, genetic and/or emotional relationship. Society relies on the family group to provide for the economic and protective needs of individuals, especially children and the elderly

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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“A family consists of two or more people, one of whom is the householder, related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing in the same housing unit. A household consists of all people who occupy a housing unit regardless of relationship. A household may consist of a person living alone or multiple unrelated individuals or families living together”

US CENSUS



'network of mutual commitment'

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL
HEALTH

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A biblical family is a set of comprehensive relationships decreed at creation beginning with a monogamous, lifelong, hierarchical and complementary relationship of a man and a woman, providing basic needs and mutual support to the individuals, connecting them and their children to the broader community and extending through those children into the future insuring the propagation not only of people but of spiritual values.

**BIBLICAL (THE BIBLE NOWHERE
ACTUAL DEFINES FAMILY)**

- ▶ “Marriage is just a promise you make and you do your best not to break that promise.”
- ▶ From a movie: “Your life will not go unnoticed because I will notice it. Your life will not go unwitnessed because I will be your witness.”
- ▶ “Marriage is just a piece of paper. Why clutter what we have with that.”
- ▶ “Being married is to be a team and to support one another and hold one another accountable.”
- ▶ “Marriage is your heart finding a home.”
- ▶ “Marriage is a fifty/fifty partnership.”

PEOPLE STILL TALK AS IF THEY KNOW
WHAT MARRIAGE AND FAMILY ARE

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HUMAN NATURE HAS NOT
CHANGED NOR HAS GOD'S
DEFINITION OF FAMILY



SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BIBLICAL FAMILY



- ▶ Marriage is a covenant: Mal 2:14; Matt 19:6
- ▶ Mal 2:14 *"Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and **your wife by covenant.**"*

MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT
RELATIONSHIP



- ▶ Marriage is a covenant: Mal 2:14; Matt 19:6
- ▶ A covenant is not a contract
 - ▶ Involves God and not just the state

MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT
RELATIONSHIP



- ▶ Marriage is a covenant: Mal 2:14; Matt 19:6
- ▶ **Mat 19:6** *"So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."*

MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT
RELATIONSHIP



- ▶ Marriage is a covenant: Mal 2:14; Matt 19:6
- ▶ A covenant is not a contract
 - ▶ Involves God and not just the state
 - ▶ Not broken by the failure of one party
 - ▶ Not temporary
- ▶ Not just for personal needs Jn 4:16-18

MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT
RELATIONSHIP



- ▶ We are male and female Gen 1:26-27
- ▶ *(Gen 1:26-27 NKJV) 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.*

FAMILY IS BASED ON A
MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN

- ▶ We are male and female Gen 1:26-27
- ▶ The creation of man as male and female indicates monogamy

FAMILY IS BASED ON A
MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN

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Mat 19:4-6 NASB And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, (5) and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'? (6) "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

THE CREATION OF MAN AS MALE
AND FEMALE INDICATES A
MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP

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- ▶ We are male and female Gen 1:26-27
- ▶ The creation of man as male and female indicates monogamy
- ▶ Monogamy is emphasized in the 10 commandments Exo 20:12, 14

FAMILY IS BASED ON A
MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN



Fifth Commandment emphasizes a monogamous relationship as the basis of the family.

HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER.

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Seventh Commandment emphasizes a monogamous relationship as the basis of the family.

**THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT
ADULTERY.**

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The pattern Eph 5:21-33

Eph 5:21-33 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. (23) For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. (24) But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. (25) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ,..... (33)Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

THE FAMILY IS HIERARCHICAL

- ▶ The pattern Eph 5:21-33
- ▶ Man must love his wife as Christ loves the church
- ▶ Wife must respect her husband as the church respects Christ.
- ▶ It is not a man's role to keep his wife in subjection but to love her.
- ▶ Not wife's role to question her husband's love but to submit.
- ▶ Marriage is serious and ought not to be entered into lightly

THE FAMILY IS HIERARCHICAL



- ▶ God holds us responsible for the future of our children and grandchildren Exo 34:7; 2 Ki 10:30
- ▶ The family is to pass on the faith

THE FAMILY INVOLVES
GENERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Psa 78:6-7 NAS77 That the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be born, That they may arise and tell them to their children, (7) That they should put their confidence in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments,

THE FAMILY INVOLVES
GENERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



- ▶ *2Ti 1:5 For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well*
- ▶ *2Ti 2:2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also*

THE FAMILY INVOLVES
GENERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



THE FAMILY INVOLVES DIFFERENT
ROLES

The image features a solid blue background with a gradient from light blue at the top to a darker blue at the bottom. In the lower-left quadrant, the text "THE FAMILY INVOLVES DIFFERENT ROLES" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font. In the lower-right quadrant, there are several white, parallel diagonal lines that create a sense of movement and depth.

- ▶ Fathers provide Matt 7:7-11
- ▶ Fathers protect Psa 68:5;146:9
- ▶ Fathers discipline Heb 12:5-7; Eph 6:4
- ▶ Fathers love and forgive Lk 15:20-24

THE FAMILY INVOLVES DIFFERENT
ROLES: FATHERS



Mothers give birth/life Deu 32:14


Mothers nurture Hos 11:3-4

Mothers protect Hos 13:8

Mothers comfort Isa 66:13

Mothers never forget Isa 49:15

THE FAMILY INVOLVES DIFFERENT
ROLES: MOTHERS



- ▶ Disobedient children are a mark of perilous times 2 Tim 3:2; Rom 1:30
- ▶ Honor and obedience is a commandment Eph 6:2
- ▶ Obligation to support parents in their old age Matt 15:3-6; 1 Tim 5:4

THE FAMILY INVOLVES DIFFERENT
ROLES: CHILDREN

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- ▶ We are stronger together Eccl 4:8-12
- ▶ Ecc 4:8-12 NASB There was a certain man without a dependent, having neither a son nor a brother, yet there was no end to all his labor. Indeed, his eyes were not satisfied with riches *and he never asked, "And for whom am I laboring and depriving myself of pleasure?"* This too is vanity and it is a grievous task. (9) Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. (10) For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. (11) Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm *alone?* (12) And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three *strands* is not quickly torn apart.

THE FAMILY IS FOR MUTUAL SUPPORT
AND ENCOURAGEMENT: JOY

- ▶ We are stronger together Eccl 4:8-12
- ▶ Family provides the greatest happiness in this life
Prov 18:22; Eccl 9:9
- ▶ The family is the idyllic picture of life Psa 128:3

THE FAMILY IS FOR MUTUAL SUPPORT
AND ENCOURAGEMENT: JOY



*Psa 128:3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
Within your house, Your children like olive
plants Around your table.*

THE FAMILY IS FOR MUTUAL SUPPORT
AND ENCOURAGEMENT: JOY

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