Rebuilding Our Homes – Laying the Foundation

Introduction Notice the word “rebuilding” in our title. A lot of American families need to be rebuilt. Many are not fundamentally sound and not functioning as they should be. Resulting in all kinds of problems including more dysfunctional families which leads to the cycle continuing. Not all families are dysfunctional which proves a point, the family can and should be working properly. Which does your family more closely resemble, the Duggars or the Kardashians. Probably neither one but keep this in mind, the Duggars a few generations ago were not that unusual. TV shows in the 1950’s and 60’s were like “Leave It To Beaver” or “Father Knows Best” were popular because they resembled the average family. We are on the path or Romans 1.28ff.

**I) The Modern Family**

**A) Biological parents not rearing their children**

1. Step mom or dad with step siblings “The Brady Bunch” without the biological parents

2. Single parent

3. Grandparents or some other family member rearing the children

**B) Resulting in a deep poverty**

1. Lack of understanding of the family, how do young men and women learn how to be husbands and wives?

2. lack of examples

3. Society breaks down as the family breaks down.

**II) Where To Start**

**A) A Circle has to beginning or end**

1. A cycle once started tends to continue, in this case on a downward spiral.

2. Dating, marriage, becoming a “real husband/wife”, having children, rearing those children, the empty nest, and the last years together.

**B) In order to break the cycle you must start somewhere on that circle.**

1. Makes sense to start at the point of the marriage.

2. A man and woman are adults and can decide what kind of marriage they intend to have

**III) Basis of Marriage**

**A) Every house must have a foundation, Matthew 12.25.**

1. No matter how beautiful the outward appearance of a house, it must have a good foundation in order to stand. **Matthew 7.21ff.**

2. Wrong foundation

a. Social approval- what society says your home should be like, the kind of husband/wife, father/mother you should be.

i. Our society has redefined marriage over the last 50 years and we see the results.

ii. High divorce rates, infidelity, unhappy marriages, unwanted children, unloved children

b. Children—they are a product of the marriage must not the basis of the marriage

c. Selfishness – what is in it for me, please me. Most marriages that end in divorce due so because of this trait.

**B) God, Genesis 2 & 3**

1. If the foundation is right then the marriage will be able to stand the rain, wind, and storms of life.

2. This does not mean all problems will disappear because you may have built poorly on the right foundation but even then you can rebuild and improve your marriage.

3. Where does God fit into your marriage?

a. Average person before marriage says “we will probably go to this church”

b. We will just work it out as we go along, not real commitment to God in the home.

**IV) God’s Word and Authority is the Right Foundation**

**A) We must hear the word of God and be committed to**

1. Our spouses in order to serve God and go to heaven.

2. Our children in order to teach them to serve God and go to heaven.

3. To be happy in this life

**B) The right foundation starts with God**

Conclusion: Next less on we will deal with marriage being a commitment to God.