

Marriage and Family: Enjoying The Journey
201: Biblical Foundations-Part 2 Roles of Wives & Husbands

LESSON 1: Leaving- Don't Leave Home With Your Parents

1. Christian Perspectives:

Genesis 2:18

The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 2:23-25

The man said,

*"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."*

[24] For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. [25] The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Matthew 19:4-6

"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' [5] and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? [6] So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

Ephes. 5:31

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

2. Christian Principles:

2.1 Leave home and leave your parents

- Change your physical location
- Develop financial independence
- Disconnect emotional dependence
- Develop your own spiritual life

2.2 Leaving involves transferring loyalty

- Leaving takes time
- Leaving means not running home in crisis
- Leaving means not reverting to childhood roles
- Leaving means choosing your spouse over parents

2.3 Leaving still involves honoring your parents

Deut. 5:16

"Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

- Always honor both parents
- Always consider them. Never criticize them
- Look for ways to repay them

1 Tim. 5:4

But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

2.4 Leaving should enable grand-parenting

Deut. 4:9

Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

2.5 Leaving should be an example to children

Psalms 127:3-4 NASB-U

Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

[4] Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.

- Before their marriage show them how to leave
- At their marriage let them leave
- After their marriage be available as a mentor

3. Christian Practices:

3.1 Don't hold grudges toward your spouse or either family

3.2 Apologize and forgive where repairs are needed

3.3 Commit to collaborating on problem "in-law" issues

3.4 Work out your own family lifestyle and traditions

3.5 Continue to improve your leaving and honoring each year

- Year One we will _____
 - Year Two we will _____
 - Year Five we will _____
 - Year Ten we will _____
 - Year Twenty we will _____
 - Year Thirty and beyond we will _____
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4. Discussion Questions:

4.1 Give every person a nametag each week with LARGE names written on each. Go around the group can tell why you are here and where else you might have been.

4.2 On the count of three, everyone point to the person in your group who you think should lead for tonight. This is your facilitator for tonight.

4.3 Share highlights from tonight's lesson. What new or important truths do you want to remember?

4.4 How will you apply the lessons learned from the session, both immediately and long-range?

4.5 Spend the last 10 minutes sharing prayer requests and praying. You can use the "Prayer Journal" in the Appendix for recording names and prayer needs.

4.6 END ON TIME TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT. People may need to leave but are always welcome to stay and fellowship.