

FOR FAMILIES TO BE CHRISTIAN

Ephesians 5:21-6:4

Introduction:

1. Satan has been unleashed on families.
 - A. He's unleashed upon those in the church.
 - B. He's unleashed upon those in ministry (Satanists target preachers).
2. Why is all this happening to professing Christian homes?
3. It happens to Christians when we become self-centered not God-centered.
4. Are the choices you are making now God- or Self-centered?

I. THEY MUST BE TRULY CHRISTIAN.

1. Be assured of a clear saying encounter with God.
2. Not just in words, but in a transformed life.
 - A. James 2:19 – ***You believe that there is one God; you do well: the devils also believe and tremble.***
 - B. Romans 12:1-2 – ***I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.***
- C. We must be Christian in . . .
 - 1) Our attitude (Positive/Negative) – What one loves or hates reveals one's God.
 - 2) Word – Language should be good & becoming conversation.
 - 3) Actions – We should be fair and just in our dealings.
 - 4) I Peter 1:15-16 – ***But as He which has called you is holy, so you be holy in all manner of conversation: because it is written, you be holy for I am holy.***

[For families to be Christian, they must not only be truly born again Christians, but also:]

II. THEY MUST BE COMMITTED.

1. They must be committed to God.

Matthew 6:33 – ***But seek first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you.***
2. They must be committed to the Word of God.
 - A. Have you heard someone say, "I know what the Bible says, but"?
 - B. Psalm 119:89 – ***Forever, O LORD, your word is settled in heaven.***

- C. Matthew 24:35 – ***Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away.***
- D. II Timothy 3:16-17 – ***All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.***
3. They must be committed to the church of God.
 - A. I John 1:7 – ***But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.***
 - B. Hebrews 10:25 – ***Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as you see the day approaching.***
4. They must be committed to morality.
 - A. Amos 5:21-25 – ***I hate, I despise your feast day, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. Though you offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts. Take away from Me the noise of your songs: for I will not hear the melody of your viols. But let judgment run down as waters and righteousness as a mighty stream. Have you offered unto Me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?***
 - B. Matt. 23:27-28 – ***Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like unto whited sepulchers, which indeed appear beautiful outward but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so, you also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.***
5. They must be committed to Biblical Family Principles.
 - A. Youngsters raised in ungodly, unstable homes have nothing but that as an example of home life.
 - B. Youngsters will detest it or resort to parents (their best role model).
 - C. Those parents who have no convictions, are not biblical role models, don't believe the whole counsel of God, or have no fear of God will become gods unto themselves; their testimony will be: "We did that which was right in our own eyes."

Conclusion:

Success in marriage is not only marrying the right person but being the right partner. The home is like a chain (it is not stronger than its weakest link). The Church can be no stronger than the homes that make up our membership.