

## WHY ARE CHRISTIAN HOMES IMPORTANT?

### I. Christian homes influence society.

- A. As we look around, we see the disintegration of society.
  - 1. Morals are at an all-time low.
  - 2. Divorce is at an all-time high.
  - 3. Homosexuality is pushed on us and the right to talk about God is pushed away from us.
- B. Only thing that can bring about a positive change is Christ.
- C. A Christian home can influence society in several ways.
- D. It will impress society that everything in it is done to please Christ ( 2 Co 5:9).
  - 1. For a Christian, there is no middle ground (Matthew 12:30).
  - 2. This will have an impact on those we meet.
- E. Our neighbors will see a difference in conduct.
  - 1. How many have changed brand named items they used because a friend said that it worked better?
  - 2. If our friends see a difference in us, that we have been with Jesus, this will cause them to be interested.
  - 3. Just as you can't hide the fruit of the tree, you can't hide the Christ-like character in a Christian (Philippians 1:27; Galatians 5:22-24).
  - 4. Christians show to the world that character is important (Philippians 3:13-14) - we should aim for perfection in character.
- F. Christian homes allow society to see how Christians face life.
  - 1. Tragedy strikes anywhere and everywhere.
  - 2. Because of the hope of a Christian, we should deal differently with tragedy than the world does.
  - 3. We have the promise of God's abiding presence and the hope of the life to come help us cope.
  - 4. When we react correctly, that will cause world to notice.
- G. We influence society by influencing our children.
  - 1. We need to teach our children the value of life.
  - 2. Too many kids killing kids.
  - 3. We need to teach our children how to act.
    - a. This includes home, school & worship.
    - b. They are setting an example for peers.
  - 4. We need to teach them that the things they do now will affect them later on in life.
    - a. We all want to look back on life and see the good that we did.
    - b. We will have to live w/ourselves in both time and eternity (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)
  - 5. Parents have the responsibility to teach children the truth.
    - a. When we do this we are looking out for our children as well as the future of the church.
    - b. (Psalm 78:6-7).

H. Surely we see Christian homes have great influence on society.

**II. Christian homes influence saints.**

A. One of the great truths of life is that the home is foundation block of society.

B. Christian homes are essential to the health of the church as well.

C. A congregation that is lively and active for Christ is one filled with good homes.

D. Good homes provide the teaching that children need to reverence God and His Son.

1. We cannot depend on the 3 hours a wk at church to teach our children.

2. God never intended for the church to be the primary source of teaching for children.

3. He has always wanted His people to teach their children (Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

E. When parents fail to teach, the church is weakened.

F. As parent of young children, I look for models in the congregation in how to rear my children.

G. The way we act in worship is a sign of how we have been taught (1 Timothy 3:14-15).

H. It is a joy to see Christians worship together.

1. We are all uplifted when we see families together.

2. It gives us hope for the future.

I. Strong Christian homes are able to fulfill Galatians. 6:2.

1. It is the strong that reach out in times of trial.

2. Homes that are what God wants understand this.

**III. Christian homes influence salvation.**

A. Where we spend eternity may very well be decided by what our homes are like.

B. Homes where God and His Word are exalted are more likely to influence their members to be saved.

C. This is why it is so crucial to marry right.

D. I urge all Christians to marry Christians, and I don't mean baptized people.

E. I know we have those who were converted because of marrying a Christian and I love you and appreciate you.

1. However you are the exception and not the rule.

2. Stat's on numbers that have fallen away show this to be greater than conversion of the non-member spouse.

F. Marrying right will, many times, determine happiness in this life as well as the next.

G. Would we hire a preacher that was married to a non-Christian, or place elders or deacons in office married to non-Christians?

H. If it is not good for them how is it good for anyone?

I. When homes are seeking 1<sup>st</sup> the kingdom of God, salvation is being influenced.