

Transcript

Paul H. Dixon:

Yesterday while I was on the place of the woman in the home, I ran out of tape. And I did just want to just briefly go over a few of the closing remarks so that this would be sure to be on the tape for today. I also might, for those newcomers who are coming in just briefly, tell you how we've approached this. We approached it the first day on God's purpose for the home.

And we found out that God definitely has ordained marriage. And we looked in the scriptures to find out... to be convinced of this. And we've found ample evidence that God performed the first marriage ceremony in the Garden of Eden, and that Jesus certainly gave plenty of indication that He was for weddings and for marriage. It's a covenant.

And we found also that seemingly God has planned it so that the average human being should be married. That it is the exception rather than the rule for the plan of God for someone to be single. We looked into the word of God at the verses that sometimes people use to accuse us. I'm glad you showed up, Mrs. Wong, because I said I thought you'd be taping this for your husband. Come right on in.

Mrs. Wong:

[inaudible 00:01:19] George.

Paul H. Dixon:

Oh, George needs some help. Right? Yeah, just keep your eye on him.

Speaker 3:

Fellowship level.

Paul H. Dixon:

Yeah. Then we also looked at what marriage was in God's sight. And we saw that it had to do with the mutual agreement between two people, but it also had to do with the ceremony because of the rules of the land under which we live, Romans chapter 13. And even the fact that we see ceremony back there in the gospel of John as Jesus attended the wedding in Cana. And we also saw that it had to do with the fulfillment of the sexual relationship.

Sexual relationship, though, does not constitute marriage. Some people want to set forth the case according to 1 Corinthians 6 that any two people who have had sexual relations before they were married, that therefore they are married. But you can't support this with scripture. That's pressing this, and I don't believe that. But for the marriage to be consummated, there has to be the sexual relationship, of course, after the ceremony.

Now some questions were put to me even privately later on about something I mentioned. I mentioned there's a great deal of homosexuality today. It's sad, but I don't know why, but even some of these homosexuals get married. And I talk to some of the women, and that's one of the saddest things to find a woman who's been married to a homosexual. I would just say this. God forbid, if it should ever happen to you, but if you find it out, I'd as fast as possible seek to have that thing annulled.

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And if there hasn't... I mentioned in the class, someone I knew, a leader in a church, who got married, was a homosexual. Of course, we didn't know it, but he was married a year-and-a-half. And his wife went to the pastor and said, "We have never had a relationship. Never. He's never touched me." And this is bad news. So, I do believe that the marriage has to be consummated with the sexual relationship.

And then we looked not only at God's purpose for the home, which is to glorify God, but also to have companionship, the husband and the wife to produce children, to have the sexual enjoyment that's been planned for human beings.

Then we broke down God's plan for the home into three parts. First of all, God's plan for the people in the home involving the wife. And that was our study yesterday when we saw that the key word for the wife is submission, that the wife is to be submissive in everything. This doesn't mean that she's to turn off her mind or that she's not to have any thoughts or she's not to make any contribution to the home.

The man is to be the manager of the home. That's what the word means when it says and Timothy, "he ruleth well his own house." He's to manage the home, he's to make use of her gifts, but he is definitely the leader. She's to recognize that, and she submit to it.

We looked at Proverbs 31 to see the results of a virtuous woman. And we were reading Proverbs 31 when our tape ran out yesterday. I would like to comment on one question that came up after we ran out of tape, and that was the question over 1 Corinthians 7 when it talks about "if the unbelieving depart, let him depart." And the question was, what does this mean?

And my position is that does not mean when it says that the believer is no longer in bondage, that doesn't mean that now she's no longer in bondage so she can get married again. But it simply means that she or he is no longer in bondage to live with that individual.

An unsaved person decides I've had it with this Christian wife or this Christian husband, I'm getting out of here, let him go. Pray for him, endeavor to love him, try to reach him, but you're not in bondage to stay with them, God says this. But that does not give you the freedom, even if they go on and divorce you, to get married again. As I said, there are some men who would differ on this, but that's my position in answer to the question.

As we come to Ephesians chapter five today and God's plan for the home relative to the husband, I would like to say this. Ephesians is a great book. And in the first three chapters of Ephesians, it's very theological. When we get into the fourth chapter, it begins to get practical like the book of James. As I mentioned this morning in our study in James, this is a good place to find God's list of sin, Ephesians chapter four.

A lot of it, again, has to do with the tongue, and has to do with some of these inner sins like wrath and anger, malice, envy, jealousy. But when we get into chapter five then, in chapter five, verse 18 says, be not drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the spirit.

And if we're going to be spirit filled, if you want to know how you can tell a spirit filled wife, she's submissive, that's what Paul says. If you want to know how to tell a spirit filled husband, he's going to tell us how to do that.

If you want to know how to have a... what a spirit filled child is, you look at chapter six and you find out what a spirit filled child is. You want to know what a spirit filled employee is, you look at chapter six. You want to find out what a spirit filled employer is, you look at chapter six. Again, the Bible's so practical. Talks about men, women, children, and the employer-employee relationship.

Gals, yesterday when I talked to you about some practical things in relationship to your husband, I told you to maintain an attractiveness, to not let yourself go. I don't remember whether I mentioned it or

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not, keep a clean house. Work on this thing of cooking for him and developing things that he likes. Just do everything to show him that you appreciate him as a man.

And whether you realize this or not, ladies, other than his God and you, the closest thing to his heart is his work. God made man for work. And I think sometimes with Christianity, we fail to realize this, and we don't even do enough preaching on the employer-employee relationships and so forth and we ought to. And it's talked about in Ephesians chapter six.

But listen, you convey to that husband that as far as you're concerned, he is a success. I don't care what that work is, he needs a reinforcement. God gave you to him for his helpmeet. Believe it or not, men need encouragement just like women need encouragement. And one of the best ways you can encourage him is by being interested in his work.

Talk to him about it. Whether he is a factory worker or a businessman or a doctor or a preacher, you come through to him that you're interested in it, that you want to talk about it, and that you really believe he's doing a fantastic job. Reinforce him in that way.

Now when we get into the husbands, you gals think that God makes a great demand of the wives. You don't have half of what God demands of the husband. And the reason I say that so dogmatically is I want you to notice that in verse 22 when it says wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord. The husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church and he is the savior of body.

Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands. Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it. Hey, he puts you wives in the position of the church, and he encourages you to be under subjection to the husband like the church is to be subject to Christ. That's a great demand.

But we recognize that the church is not infallible, and the church is made up of sinners, and we see where in this church comes far short of the submissiveness. But the demand that's put up on the man is that we have to perform like Christ. You are to function as the church. We are to function as Christ.

And the demand here is that just like Christ loved the church, we are to love you, we are to love our wives. What a responsibility. You say it's impossible. Only by the grace of God can any wife be submissive to her husband, and only by the grace of God can we as men love our wives as Christ loved the church.

Now the word for love here is an interesting love. There are three Greek words that are used for love in the Greek language. The first one is the word eros. It has to do with love in the sense of passion, feeling. We get our word erotic from it. This word never occurs in the New Testament, not once, but that is the kind of love that most of the world is talking about.

When suddenly you meet somebody and there's some kind of passion, and there's this erotic kind of love, then they walked off into the sunset ala Liz Taylor and Richard Burton and lived happily ever after for the next nine years till they got their next divorce. See?

But this was supposed to be the couple, "Oh, what love they had." And now supposedly their love is so great that they can't even live together anymore. They just can't stand it. That's that erotic kind of love, and that's not a viable love. It's not the kind of love that's going to make it, either.

The second kind of love that is in the Bible is the file phileo love. Eros, E-R-O-S. The phileo, P-H-I-L-E-O. And it has to do with the human affection and concern. We get our word philanthropy from that. This word is never used in a command for us to love God. We are not to love God with that kind of love. It's not just a human affection and concern.

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And incidentally, that is not the word, fellas, that's used for us in loving our wives. It is not just to be a human affection. There needs to be affection within the marriage, but that's not all there is to love.

The third word that is used for love is the word agape. A-G-A-P-E, that's the word in John 3:16, when God so loved the world that He gave. That's the word that's found again and again in 1 Corinthians 13. That's the word in Romans 5:8, "God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." It is not measured by how one feels, but by the sacrifice of oneself.

This love is rooted in sacrifice. We know God loves us because He has displayed that love when He gave His son. So, the kind of love that God demands of us, men, is a giving of ourselves to those wives. Paul here has demanded that the wife be willing to totally live for her husband. Paul has demanded of the husband that a man be willing to die for his wife.

I think that as we get into what love is, to me, the man's responsibility is to be that he is a loving leader. A loving leader. And I think most of us like to emphasize as men the leadership part, and we do not emphasize enough the loving part. We all like to be leaders, in the church, on the job, out on the ball field and in the home. "Yeah, wife, don't you know you're supposed to be submissive to me? I'm the leader in this home. I'm the ruler in this home." Loving leaders.

Jesus did not come to his disciples and set forth his authority in the fullest until after he died. After He gave Himself on the cross, He then came to His disciples and said "all power is given unto Me." He set forth His authority after He demonstrated his love. And I'll tell you what, fellas. If you demonstrate your love to your wife, you're not going to have quite the problem of exercising your authority as if you try to exercise that authority before you truly set forth that love.

I'd like for you to just go on and follow along with me while I finish reading in this chapter about our responsibility in an interesting guise. I've been reading several books on the home, and most of the writers spend all their time talking to the wife, maybe it's because it overlaps quite a bit, and very little time on the husband. But God spent most of the time on the husband and very little time on the wife. There aren't many verses to the wife, but look how many verses to the husband.

Again, "husbands," verse 25, "Love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it would be holy and without blemish. So, men ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself."

It comes back to this thing again, I thought we weren't supposed to love ourselves. Paul said you're supposed to love yourself, and you're supposed to love your wife like you love your body. Ought to love their wives as their own bodies. "No man ever yet hated his own flesh, but he nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church."

Guys, most of us are pansies. Now we don't like to admit that, but we're pansies. Did you know that women can stand more pain than men can? Most of us think, oh, the woman sees some blood and she starts screaming.

Did you ever see a guy react after he's hurt? Boy, we cut our arm and whoa, we run in to the sink and we get the water and we don't want to see that blood, wash it all off, get the iodine. In fact, we like it better if the wife does it, her tender touch and that nurse's touch. And she puts the Band-Aid on and kisses it and everything. We nourish and cherish our bodies.

God says we're to nourish and cherish. These are two tender words, precious words. We are to nourish and cherish our wives. Pamper. Ah. Pamper our wives just like we pamper our own bodies. I'll give you some more practical things on how to do that before we close the session.

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This is what he's saying. "We are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother." He's quoting Genesis 2:24. "Shall be joined unto his wife. They shall two be one flesh."

This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ in the church." He has a two-fold point that he's making here, the relationship of Christ to the church and the relationship of the husband to the wife. "Nevertheless, let every one of you in particular so love his wife, even as himself. And he's summing it up. The wife see that she reverence her husband."

Now there are a couple other passages that I think we ought to look at. Take your Bibles and turn to 1 Peter chapter 3, verse 7. Would you look at that verse? "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor," 1 Peter 3:7, "unto the wife as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life that your prayers be not hindered."

In other words, it says there that there is to be this special tenderness demonstrated in love of the husband for the wife, that she is the weaker vessel. Like I say, I think we can talk about a lot of practical things as to how this can be demonstrated, but I want you to see that Peter's saying the same thing Paul's saying. The thing that disturbs me is a lot of men want to make a big deal out of having the authority and of how of being the leader, but they don't want to talk about being the lover, and they go together. Loving leadership.

Look at Colossians chapter 3 verse 19. Let's see what Paul has to say again about this. "Husbands, love your wives." And Paul here adds a new wrinkle. "Be not bitter against them." I don't know quite how to say it, but fellas, that are going to be times when it's going to be very easy for you to get bitter at your wife.

It's a joke. No man can understand a woman. And Pastor [inaudible 00:20:07] Wong got up today, and I forget what he said about being married for 18 years and still couldn't understand a woman or something like that. And we all laugh, and it's really funny. But I'll tell you ,when you don't understand them, it's awful easy to get bitter. That's why Paul said this.

As I said yesterday, there are going to be specific times in the course of the month, there're going to be moods that they're going to be through, and you are not going to be able to figure them out. And Paul is saying do not be bitter. Don't be harsh. That's the time when they really need you. They don't ask for you to totally understand them, but they ask for you to endure it with them. I don't know. Maybe many times we don't talk about this openly and publicly, but I think that if Paul is bring it to our attention, we certainly ought to be aware of it.

Listen. Again, you fellas, you buy books and find out how these gals are made up physiologically. And you'll find out that they're made up in a way that if you don't understand it, you're in for a rough time after you get married. But if you can understand it, and you can sit down, and you can talk about, it'll really help. Maybe if you have a sister in your home, you understand a lot more than the guy who doesn't have a sister.

I don't know. I know that some gals have a tougher time understanding men because they never had a brother. My wife has a twin sister and that's all. And she's told me that there were many things. Now all she has is just two fellas, me and Scott, a husband and a son. But she grew up before she got married with, of course, a father image there, but no brothers.

And so, this does make a difference. She says that, I'm sure that it does. And it works the same way with the fellas. If you just have brothers and don't have any sisters, it may take you a little longer to understand about women. But Paul is saying we have a special responsibility to be tender towards these gals.

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Look if you will at Ephesians chapter one, verse 22. Now it talks about the Lord Jesus and His position. Let's start with verse 20. "Which He hath wrought in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion. And every name that is named not only in the world, but also in that which is to come. And He hath put all things under His feet, and He gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, which is the body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all."

Now I think if we can somehow see what Paul is saying here, it'll help us to understand the correlation between leadership and love. Between what Paul is saying about the wife being submissive because he's the head of the wife and he is the head of the home because he's the leader of the home, and what he's saying when he says, men, love your wives as Christ loved the church. We know that Jesus Christ has been given all authority.

We also see here in Ephesians 1:22 that all of these power and all of this might and all of this dominion that's been given to Him, all of this rulership, it's been put under His feet. He sits on his throne. He is the king. And yet it's been given Him to exercise on behalf of the church. In other words, all that He has there is for the church. And Jesus Christ is exercising His attributes and His love for the church. It's all for us. So, this is a tremendous truth.

But it's the same way in the home. We are to exercise that authority. We're to be the leaders in the home. But everything we do, we're to be thinking about our wives. We're to be thinking about how it's going to affect them, and we're to exercise that leadership with love.

A lot of guys say, "Oh, my wife just won't submit to me." Did you know that the command is given to the wife to submit, but the command is not given for the wife to love. Now that doesn't mean that the wife shouldn't love the husband, but scripturally speaking, it is not the responsibility of the wife to bring love into that home. It's the husband's responsibility. God says he is to love.

But so many times we turn this around. We think of the women and they're tender and they're affectionate, and we think they're going to provide all the love. The man is to take the leadership in this, and he is to provide the love in that home. And I'll tell you what, men. You be the right kind of a lover, and you will be the right kind of a leader. I'm not saying there won't be any problem with your wife on submission because she's a sinner just like you are. But I'm saying that it'll solve about 75% of the battles.

I have a friend. We got married the same year, 13 years ago. He wasn't married a year until he started telling everybody how he did not love his wife. And I still see him periodically, he's a good friend of mine, I love him and pray for him, but he tells me that he just can't love his wife. Now he tells me that his wife doesn't know that, I can't believe it, but he says that he doesn't love his wife. Fellas, you don't have a choice.

Wait, what do you mean? You say all of a sudden you just create love? Well, let me ask you this. What about when the Bible says "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy strength, with all thy might." Is that a command or isn't it? Certainly. You are to love the Lord. I am to love the Lord. Do it.

This is not some kind of passion. This is not just some kind of erotic feeling. This is something that we just must exercise. We've got to love the Lord our God with everything we have. And the same way the command is given for us to love our wives.

Sometimes a couple will say, "Well, there just there used to be love, but it isn't there anymore." Well, bring it back. Work on it. You don't have to go to the divorce court because things have grown stale and cold. Work on this thing. Let's get it going again. The responsibility, men, is for us to love.

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I'd like to give you... I know some might prefer that I spend more time on the leadership part. But as I see it, when I read Ephesians five, Paul emphasized the loving part even above the leadership part, because I don't think that a man can be the right kind of a leader unless he is the right kind of a lover.

But I like to give you even just some practical things, fellas, that I think that we ought to do to help us in just the relationship with the wife. And I don't know about you, but I'm slow coming around some of these things. I never had a class like this. I didn't read enough books. Again, I am sure I didn't go at the scripture seriously enough when I got married. And the only thing I'm sad is that I've been so slow to learn. And if you can learn faster than I did, I sure hope you do.

I think that it is very necessary, fellas, as soon as you are married to immediately let them know just very kindly, okay, it's all settled now. I'm the leader in the home. Boy, if you let that gal start taking the leadership from the start, you are going to... There are times when you're just going to have to put your foot down a little bit heavy.

Because naturally, there's so many things today that build into the independence of a woman. There's going to be this resistance. Let them know that you are the authority in the home. But with this, I think there are some things that you can do that they will really appreciate.

Now last week I was a little bit surprised. I asked the teenage girls whether they like the fellas putting the chairs out and putting them under them at the table and whether they liked the fellas opening the car doors and so forth. And some of the girls didn't like it, they said. They said that it made them feel helpless.

Girls, you better let them do it, really. And guys, do it. Do it. These are just the little things. I mean, these are just the little things that make for just a special kind of relationship. You don't want the average kind of a home. Man, you want that home to be just super. Work on it all the time.

And take that chair out. And like someone said that I read, I thought it was a very good thought, when you put that chair under her, do it... I have a tough time with that. I've not too graceful. Seems like the chair always sticks or she sits down before it gets under her. But after, to just tap her on the shoulder. You're not going to kiss her right then or anything because maybe you're in a restaurant or something, but you just tap her on the shoulder, and that's kind of a love tap, see? That's saying, hey, I'm thinking of you right now when you do that. My wife and I have a sign. If you ever see me sitting on the platform and all of a sudden I go like... means I love you.

Oh no, we laugh about it, but I've never done it yet.

I have a list here. I put things down. There came a time in my marriage when I felt that I needed to work on this. And I wrote these things down, and every once in a while I reviewed them just to see whether I'm really putting them into practice or not. Let's face it, guys, it's going to be a growing process. Your wife is not going to be a mature wife as soon as you get married, and you're not going to be a mature husband. It's going to take some growth, and these things will come. And work on that and building into one another.

I think that one thing there ought to be is always an openness and an honesty, I think in that home that you guys and gals ought to sit down at times and say, "Look, there's some things bugging me."

I've been bugging my wife for two weeks. I guess I've been bugging her all summer because I've been making some of the weirdest noises when I sleep, see? I've been having a problem breathing or something. She says it's not just a breathing problem because I do it with my nose and I do it with my mouth. And it wouldn't be so bad, but I wake her up at night doing it.

So, we have agreed that it's right for her to give me an elbow in the ribs to wake me up and say, "Knock it off, and turn over on your side so I can get some sleep." But really, there's some time when you need

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to talk over. There are people who I am sure are not speaking today because the husband snores. Really. He doesn't know that's bugging her. And there are some of the smallest things.

Some gals, for instance, will put the toilet paper on the roll so that it comes out of the bottom. The man may like for the toilet paper to come off at the top. And would you believe it or not, some are having the biggest arguments or whether they ought to take it off the bottom or they ought to take it off the top. Really. I think the solution is, just take the roll and set it up on top of the toilet seat, and you can take it off any way you want. I mean, I really think that's the best way.

Some get upset because the husband is the organizer, and everything is all computer. And so, he grabs the toothpaste and he starts at the bottom and everything. He very carefully works his way up the toothpaste, and he rolls it up, and it's all systematic. And that's just great until the wife comes in and she wants some toothpaste and it's right in the middle, just squeezes it. Messed up the whole job.

There he is, been working on this. Because this causes real problems. I think that there has to be a meeting of the minds, there has to be a certain latitude here, and a recognition of the differences of personalities and so forth.

I'll tell you what, there's a book that you ought to read if you haven't read it called How to Be Happy Though Married by Tim LaHaye. Now I don't like the title, but it's a good book, How to Be Happy Though Married.

And of course, Tim LaHaye does a lot of this thing on temperaments. He's written spirit controlled temperament. He's written transformed temperaments. And you ought to read those as well to learn why people do what they do and why they react. But he brings all this to bear within the home, within the marriage, and how to understand one another and how to help one another.

I think it's great, guys, to make something of the special days in their lives. Remember their birthday. You may not have a lot of money, but you can buy them a card. Make something of your anniversary. Don't forget the anniversary. It's a big day. Christmas presents, things like that.

And every once in a while, it's great just to surprise them. Really is. No special day just to show up with a box of candy or whatever it might be. And with that you're saying I love you. And I believe this is very important to work on these things in the home. I don't know. Somehow as Christians, we think maybe you shouldn't do this, but I believe very strongly that this is part of making a successful home.

Something that bugs me in a negative way, and I guess all of us have this problem. Did you ever hear two people in a car or two people in a house, and he says, "Well, actually, we live about five miles from where I work." And she speaks up and says, "It's six. Six miles." And he says, "No, it's five miles." "No," she said, "six miles." And they argue over the littlest thing.

Now let me ask you, does it really make any difference whether it's five or six, or does it really make any difference if it happened six months ago or seven months ago? But we've got to be so definite and so dogmatic and set forth our point. And these are things that you just don't want to do. So, I just toss these things out to you. I trust that I'm stirring up your minds on things that we may think are little, but they really matter, and they make a great deal in the home.

Because I've tried to figure this out, how we're going to do it, tomorrow is big time when we talk about children, raising children, the disciplining of children. Probably won't have much time to get into teenagers in the home, but probably have to devote our time to children. And then Saturday, we'll talk about God's place in the home. We'll talk about how to have a family altar and how to put God in His proper place and giving and so forth like that.

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But I thought I wanted to slip it in some place that it's very important, this thing of money matters in the relationship of the husband and the wife. And when you get married, you ought to sit down and you ought to discuss this about money and how it ought to be handled.

I firmly think if the wife does work, that it's a bad mistake for the guy to say, "Well, what I make is mine," and the woman to say, "What I make is mine." No, it's yours together. And I would encourage you to have a joint bank account and to put any monies that come in together.

Now if you want to have an agreement that I think the woman should have some of that money that she's making just to make her feel good to have a \$10 bill in her purse or something like that. But the idea of the woman saying, "Well, I'm going to keep all my money and spend it on what I want to, and you can go ahead and pay the bills and do what you..." Just doesn't work that way. There ought to be togetherness on this thing of money.

Sex and money probably presents more problems in the home than anything else I know. Many people are just very immature on this thing of money matters. Sometimes there's a guy and he's a spendthrift. Anything he sees he wants, he buys. He wants a new motorcycle, he gets it. She may need a washer and a dryer, but he needs that motorcycle more than she needs that washer and dryer. He needs a new set of golf clubs. And he's all the time spending money.

I got one friend, he averages about five new cars a year, believe it or not. I mean, he can't keep a car for about two months and he's got to have another one. And he's just constantly in debt. He's come to me, he makes \$20,000, \$25,000 a year. But he'll come to me and he'll say, "Paul, I need help with my finances. Do you have any suggestions?" I can tell him anything I want to, but he'll go right out and buy something he doesn't need.

He'll buy a boat, then he'll buy a camper, then he'll buy a trailer. But he'll usually only keep them just a little bit, find now he doesn't need him, and sell them for loss. That's just the way he functions. I mean, and people work that way. Get a meeting of the minds together. You'll talk about this before you get married. You'll talk about it after you get married. Draw up a budget.

I'm not a firm believer in saying that you have to have so many dollars each place, but at least do this. Get you a sheet and drop some guidelines. Put it the first top, giving, the Lord's work. It's right at the top. And so, that you have a general idea of how much you're going to give to the Lord's work, and you put that amount down. And then at the end of the month when you balance your check, check it out. How much did I give to the Lord's work this this month?

Then put your house, your house payment, your electric bill, your telephone bill, your water bill, your utilities, and your house right there in that next section. See if I can remember exactly how we have it. Then in the next section you have your automobile, and that has to do with your car payment, and that has to do also with the gas and the upkeep on it. Then I have one section for insurance. That is what I'm going to have to pay out in car insurance, what I'm going to have to pay out in hospital assurance, what I'm going to have to pay out in life insurance.

And incidentally, fellas, take care of that life insurance. I know [00.38.41 Jonh L. Rice] and some men don't believe in it. I do. I really do. I'll tell you, they can talk about faith, but I believe that the word of God also teaches that we have responsibilities to our wives not only while we're alive, but after we're dead. And I don't want somebody else having to look after my family. I want to see that they're taken care of after I'm gone. I believe this is just like we make plans for revival meetings, and we make plans in the church, we ought to make plans in the home.

I had a friend who died last year, 37 years old, with a brain tumor. Cancer. He had four children, the oldest was 13. He not only left a wife and four children, he left them not having any hospitalization with

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thousands of dollars worth of hospital bills because of cancer. He left them without any Social Security, and he left them totally without any life insurance.

Thank God for God's people who all over the country gave money to pay those hospital bills, and above that to give them a good goodly sum to get started on. But boy, I don't know what that guy was thinking about. You think about this, you study this thing, and set up in your budget some money for life insurance.

Then after the insurance, section for groceries. After the groceries, I have a section for stores, department stores. Let me give you this recommendation, you would do best to start out your marriage with no credit cards.

Now there no doubt will come a time when you'll want some credit cards. But if you start out with credit cards. Listen, think about it when you get married. When Pat and I got married, I was working at a dry cleaners, going to school, paying my way through college, putting her through college, making a car payment, living in an apartment, \$60 a month, furnished, all utilities paid. Boy, those were great days.

And man, if I made a hundred dollars in a week on that dry cleaning, that was really super. And a lot of times the guys wouldn't pay me till a week or two later. And they were really tough times.

And then I knew I was going into evangelism. And when you go into evangelism, when you get started, I mean, you don't know what you're going to have. You don't know what the love offerings are going to be. You're starting out in small churches.

And so, we had it all mapped out that when I started evangelism, the car was paid for. The only set bill we had every month was a \$60 rent bill. We also had to pay for our groceries and things. But we made sure that we didn't have any of these big Bank Americards or Penney's bills or Sears bills coming. It's just so easy to use them. And you can get under.

And if you get under, listen, it's not only going to present problems between you and your wife, it's going to present problems with you and the Lord. You get thinking about all those bills that are hanging over your head and how you can't pay them and it influences your giving. And you spend so much time thinking about that you just can't function properly. And this is just my suggestion.

One good way to do it is to decide, okay, what is our money? It's going to take so much money to pay for all these things that have to be paid, the utilities, the car payment, the house payment, et cetera, the rent, whatever it is. These are musts.

Okay, how much are we going to have left over... gone, the \$15, then you just don't have anymore to spend in the department store. You just go with your hose that have got to run in them. See? And you just have to get by, that's all. This may seem very idealistic. But I'll tell you, you'll be far better off if you're frugal and you're strict on this matter of your spending at the beginning. Get started right with your budget.

Wow, we've tossed out a lot of things for you today, and our time's almost gone. I'd like to have you ask some questions. Like I said, tomorrow to be about the children. I'm sure there'll be a lot of questions about discipline. The next day on family worship, there'll be a lot of questions on that. So, any of these practical things that you'd like to ask about husband wife relationship, budgeting, and so forth, feel free to ask right now and we'll discuss them. Okay? Got some questions?

You got any personal questions? I'll be glad to possibly discuss it. It depends on how personal. I don't know. I've always appreciated listening to people, though, share with me their experience. I certainly don't plan to think I've got it all figured out. I know I'm not the husband I ought to be. I'm sure Pat isn't the wife she ought to be. I'm sure that in many ways we come short, and there's budgeting and

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everything else. But at least in tossing out these things of what we do, I think it helps you to identify and apply it. Okay? Yes.

Speaker 3:

Should a couple hold off marriage if neither one is working and they're both going to school?

Paul H. Dixon:

The question is, should a couple hold off marriage if neither one is working and they're both going to school. My first reaction, it sure would seem like it. I don't see how they're going to make it if one of them isn't working. But I am not against young people being married and going to school. I guess because I just think it was so great for us. I think it was great for Pat.

I just look back at those times and we had it so rough, and those were tremendous days. And I don't think that you have to have a big bank account and be able to see your way clear to get started right out on top before you get married. I think it's good to share in those rough times. I imagine some of the rest of you could give some testimonies about that.

But if neither of them are working, I sure wouldn't want mom and dad to support my wedding. Because I got a hangup on school. This may be way out, but I'm not going to pay my boy's way through school. I don't care how much money I have, I don't plan... I might help a daughter, but I won't help a son. My son is going to work his way through school. He's going to find out the value of a dollar while he's still in college.

You say, "Well, he don't get as much out of the books." Well, maybe I got to hangup on that, too. I'm not so sure that all the answers in the books. I think he'll find out a lot working with his hands and find out a lot having to make a dollar, know how to spend it. And if he only get C's instead of A's and yet he learned something out there in that ditch, I say he had a great college education. Okay? Somebody else with a question? Yes.

Speaker 4:

[inaudible 00:45:33]

Paul H. Dixon:

The question is, it the woman's place to bring up the discussion if she sees that the husband is somehow not fulfilling his responsibility? I don't know that I've ever been asked that before. When you give answers like this off the cuff, I'm sure you answer some correctly and some may be incorrectly.

First of all, generally speaking, the question is, should she obey him? Should she go ahead and still be submissive even though he is a milk-toast husband? Yes, you should. The responsibility is there. Now many people say, "well, I've got to be the leader in the home because my husband won't take the leadership." You make him take the leadership. If he doesn't do, it doesn't get done. I mean, that's just all there is to it.

My reaction to should she bring it up to him and talk to him about it, I think my reaction would be, since I firmly hold to a position of openness and honesty, I think in a very sweet way I would try to bring it about and see if we couldn't get into a discussion about it. I might just bring up a thought like maybe the pastor had spoken on that. What do you think about that? And just discuss it.

But I don't think that silence is going to be the answer. Though I do think this, sometimes we sell short the power of prayer. I think, men, if you have a rebellious wife, it's one thing to talk to her. It's another

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thing to demand of her. But you may come to the place where all you can do is take her to the Lord and let the Lord make her submissive.

And if you've got a husband who won't take this loving leadership, you may want to talk about it. If that doesn't sell anything, there may come the time you just have to take it to the Lord. Lord, you lay it on his heart. Somehow bring somebody, something into his life and help him to fulfill his responsibility. God still answers prayer, too. Anybody else?

I don't think I've covered everything that thoroughly or in that much detail. We've just touched on some things. I have to wonder if maybe some of you don't have some questions you're embarrassed to ask. Sometimes we have questions, we think that's a dumb question. I better not ask it. And while you're sitting there thinking that's a dumb question, there are 15 other people having that same dumb question. So, ask it. Yes?

Speaker 5:

[inaudible 00:48:15]

Paul H. Dixon:

What kind of insurance? First of all, an observation on that. I had a guy tell me, he said, "I don't have any insurance for my family. I don't have any Social Security for my family. Looking for the Lord to come." I said, "How long before we started this revival meeting did you promote it?" He said, "A couple months."

I thought the Lord was coming. For two months, he was looking for that revival meeting to come. Really, what he was saying was that if the Lord didn't come, I was preparing for that revival meeting. Well, if the Lord doesn't come, I am preparing for the wellbeing of my family. And I think it is totally consistent.

And you say what kind of insurance? Of course, like I said, we carry the things that are necessary, the car insurance, the hospitalization, and we also have insurance. I have the bulk of the insurance on myself. I increase it as I get older and as I can afford for.

I'm interested in finances and I make studies. For instance, I used to have the position that I could do better having no hospitalization. And I took the money for hospital payments, insurance premiums, and put it in a separate account. My position was that I could save more money and pay the hospital bills than I could by putting out \$400 a year in hospitalization. You take \$400 a year, if you live 30 years, you put \$12,000 into premiums, and there are very few people who we use of \$12,000 worth of insurance. And so, I thought I could save it.

Then all of a sudden it hit me. I could meet the small things that come along. My wife had an appendicitis attack, cost me \$500. I just got it out of there, and it was able to pay \$500, and I was still ahead. But what if I would've had the brain tumor and it was \$5,000 or \$10,000? It would've sunk my family.

So, I found out that you can get an insurance policy that protects you against the major catastrophe. It's called major medical. It's a \$500 deductible policy, and it'll only cost you about \$10 a month. The other one when you're protecting yourself against the little thing is costing you cost to \$40 a month. So, what did I do? I went out and I bought that policy for \$10 a month that protected me against the major thing and continued to put my money aside to be able to take care of the small things.

So, I guess it's a matter of outlook. Some people believe in term insurance. You can get term insurance cheap, and that's a good way to get started. In other words, you can get \$25,000 worth of insurance for maybe \$8 or \$9 a month, but it decreases. You're protecting yourself maybe for 20 years. 20 years from now, if you didn't die, you don't have anything. It's all gone.

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Well, a whole life policy may cost you three times as much. Like for me, a \$25,000 policy would cost around \$50 a month. But at the end of a certain period of time, if I don't die, I have all of that money that's there.

I personally don't carry Social Security. I think Social Security is a bad investment for me. For many of you, it is not. If you have a large family and so forth, for my friend who had four children, Social Security, would've been a great investment. It's too bad he didn't invest in it. But for me, it's a bad investment.

So, I've signed the waiver. Only preachers have that option. I signed the waiver and I'm not under Social Security. So that \$25,000 of life insurance will do the same thing that Social Security is supposed to do, though I don't really plan to retire unless I become feeble and can't preach anymore.

But at any rate, that's the way I look at finances. I try to think these things through. And there are different philosophies. Some people are really great on term insurance and others aren't. But maybe that gives you new thoughts. Okay, somebody else? Yes?

Speaker 6:

[inaudible 00:52:23]

Paul H. Dixon:

If the man is not taking the spiritual leadership in the family, how far should the wife submit? Well, there are all kinds of ramifications here. For instance, what if the husband is unsaved? The question is, if the husband doesn't want you going to church and all the services, should you continue to go to church every time and leave him sitting at home? I think not. On the other hand, I wouldn't stop going to church. I would have a meeting of the minds and let him know that you love him.

Incidentally, the way to win an unsaved husband, 1 Peter 3:1, is by the way you live. And you better really shower him with love. If you expect to win him. You don't badger him. You don't ride him. The badgering wife invariably never wins her husband to Christ. And some women take great pride in the fact that they have an unsaved husband because they get a lot of sympathy that way. They can come every service and ask prayer for their unsaved husband.

I think they almost would regret it if their husband got saved because they wouldn't have people coming up patting him on the back saying, "I feel so sorry for you because you're living with an unsaved man." I think if the husband says, "Let's go out and get drunk," then the point is there when she is to refuse to submit on this area, and her submission is to the Lord first there.

If the husband is a Christian, and he's refusing to take spiritual leadership regarding devotions, for instance, with the children, I think the wife should meet with those children and have devotions anyway, I don't think that that she should just say, well, we won't have any time of Bible reading and prayer in the home because the husband won't do it.

So, there's so many things that enter into this. It's difficult to set up a set pattern and be cut and dried on it. But I'm sure that if you'd like to talk to me any more about these things, I want to let you go for lunch, those who are hungry. That's most of us, I guess. But I trust this has been profitable practically.

I'm excited about tomorrow, children in the home. What is biblical discipline? What are some practical things? And I want to give you a couple of books tomorrow on discipline that you ought to read that I think will prove quite interesting. Let's have prayer, shall we?