



The Biblically-Healthy Household Pt 5: Has a Unified Purpose!

May 31, 2020

Foundational Text for the Month: Matthew 7:24-27

Welcome to the fun message! :)

I certainly hope you have been blessed by our time together in this topic. It is of critical importance!

By God's grace, I pray you have learned much and been greatly encouraged!

Our goal has been to pack these messages with God's holy truth. Each message has seven principles to help you build, in the power of Jesus Christ, a household, in whatever God-honoring form, that will honor the LORD.

Messages and key thoughts:

First, we learned that a BHH must be built on the Rock of Christ. It must know His propitiatory work is foundational. He therefore becomes the chief "motivator" for all the home does. He is worshipped and discussed. He is preached and His joy is sought after. His warnings of what it means to follow Him are accepted and heeded and His church is a vital part of the rhythm of the home. His worship is seen as reasonable service!

Secondly, on Mother's Day, we learned that the dignity of the women in the household must be upheld. Despite the cultural craziness surrounding who a woman is and what God has called her to do, we declared that God's Word is sufficient to define womanhood and motherhood. We saw that understanding her creation and purpose leads to dignity. Therefore, her holy office is honored, she is treaded gently, and her teaching received. She is protected from harm, her prayers are solicited, and she is encouraged to "Titus 2" the younger women in her life, teaching them *"to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."*

Thirdly, we learned that members of the BHH must joyfully accept their God-defined roles. And not only with joy; also with honor! We learned that honor is the glue that holds everything together; it is the grease that causes things to run smoothly and the guardrails for when things get testy. With it, the household is a WONDERFUL place to be. WITHOUT it, there is disrespect, distrust, and and disorder. Therefore, Scripture is seen as sufficient to define these roles and the family identity flows from God's Word. Love and obedience undergird everything. Fathers are honored as heads of the household, mothers are cherished, children are loved and valued, grandparents and extended family help to add perspective, and singles are working powerfully in the Kingdom. (Feb 2020 message)

And last week, we learned that the BHH practices spiritual disciplines. We were exhorted that "discipline" defined biblically is a good thing; it helps us grow and mature in the LORD! So this household practices prayer and family worship; they read the Bible and memorize Scripture. They walk in honesty and integrity and attempt to see the world through Scripture (a Biblical Worldview). They also grow in their understanding of sin and the fear of the LORD. They are so overwhelmed by God's love in Christ that they repent and forgive quickly. They speak kind and loving words one to another and the atmosphere in the household reflects God's peace.

Today, we submit that all these wonderful things come together to create home with a Unified Purpose!

What does that mean?

First, here is what we are NOT saying. We are not saying that members of the home lose their sense of individual purpose or that their unique gifts and personalities must be expunged for the whole.

In fact, it is those things that help create momentum in the Household's mission! God uses each individual to create a beautiful unified tapestry unto His own glory!

We need look no further than the church to figure this out:

1 Corinthians 12:12-18 (KJV) *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.*

I believe that just as God desires no schisms in the churches and care one to another (1 Cor 12:25), God desires the same in families. Indeed, such unity grows out of families!

Remember, a husband and wife, together, demonstrate the unity between Christ and His church (Eph 5). A pastor/elder cannot lead in the church unless he first demonstrates he can lead his family. (1 Tim 3:1-7) In fact, he is to be an example for the flock! (1 Tim 4:12; 1 Pet 5:3)

So aren't saying give up godly dreams; we are saying ask, "How does that dream connect to our household glorifying God?"

Seven Principles of Unified Purpose

1. Understand the Power of the Household Jurisdiction.

The household is the first jurisdiction, or sphere of authority, that God created.

He created Adam and created a helper fit for him...the first household.

They were given a charge:

Genesis 1:27-28 (KJV) *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

I believe every BHH is charged with taking dominion...ruling over, stewarding, growing, bearing fruit (however you want to say it!) throughout their lives for the glory of God!

Please know that your household can make a difference! Scripture and church history is filled with examples of households that did just that!

2. Know Satan wars against the Seed!

There is a spiritual war going on. From the garden, the devil was at war against the Seed of the woman, which ultimately is Christ. (Gen 3:15)

Anything "Christianly" will be attacked by demonic principalities and powers:

Ephesians 6:12-13 (KJV) *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against*

spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

This is true of your household; as you build something good for God, expect resistance! This is very important to understand! If you miss this your household will be much more susceptible to drama and foolishness! And be encouraged in the fight:

Colossians 2:15 (KJV) *And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

The devil does not want your children saved, your household blessed, your efforts filled with power, your attitude and actions holy, or your heart filled with joy. But Jesus wins! Trust Him and go forth in obedience! The devil cannot have your household!

3. Work out your specific family purpose in Prayer and God's Word.

So once you have declared, like Joshua, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD," seek the LORD for direction.

So what does God want your family to do...to focus on? What is your family vision? Have you prayed on this and searched the Scriptures? Have you asked, "LORD, what is Thy will for my family?"

Scripture says:

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) *Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

Proverbs 29:18 (ESV) *Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law.*

Having some sense of family direction (vision) can be a powerful thing:

1. Vision gives us **direction**. Sets our path in life and helps us set goals.
2. Vision drives our **motivation**. This keeps us from getting distracted by the small stuff.
3. Vision helps us **prioritize** (focus). Helps us say no to wrong things and yes to right things.
4. Vision builds our **faith**. If it is God's idea it will require God's power.
5. Vision forces us to be **disciplined**. No one can walk in obedience without self-control.

This forces a question: Does your family have a "mission statement" and "family covenant?" A Family Covenant consists of statements concerning what the household will do and will not do based on God's Word.

"A family mission statement is a combined, unified expression from all family members of what your family is all about — what it is you really want to do and be — and the principles you choose to govern your family life." -Stephen Covey

Mission Statement Helps:

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/writing-a-family-mission-statement/>

<https://www.artofmanliness.com/articles/creating-a-family-culture-how-and-why-to-create-a-family-mission-statement/>

<https://www.bcbible.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Developing-a-Biblical-Family-Mission-Statement.pdf>

Again, this isn't to narrow or limit gifts; these can be varied and far-reaching depending on what you discern for your family.

The key is unity around overarching goals that are based in God's Word!

4. Rally around Household Head!

From the beginning, we see that God is a God of order. All He does is consistent with this truth.

The devil on the other hand, loves chaos and disorder. Apply this principle in your home!

Every team has a leader. If he (or she) has really listened, this series may cause some changes in the family routine!

Talk of vision and purpose and mission will, if such talk is Christ-centered, usher in new opportunities for obedience.

Old routines may have to go by the wayside to make room for more Kingdom-production.

Motivation to get in shape (spiritual and physical), serve the church and community, grow wealth, be hospitable, and make a large dent in the devil's kingdom will likely arise.

And now is a great time for such!

So remember: in God's households there is an order...an order designed to produce blessing!

1 Corinthians 11:3 (KJV) *But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.*

Mom or Dad will need your encouragement, forgiveness, prayers, and support!

Once the mission is set, rally around the leader and let's go to work!

So many are hurting; your life is about more than reality shows and video games!

5. Household purpose is connected to the glory of God, the local Church, and will value to Community!

Scriptures says:

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (KJV) *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*

Matthew 16:18 (KJV) *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

Matthew 22:37-40 (KJV) *Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

Jesus said He would build His church! This implies His protection, His patience, His guidance, and His power.

Every biblical family mission and vision will involve glory and honor to God in Christ in holiness and serving others in and through the church.

Lest we forget, from Acts forward Scripture is all about the church. One cannot read through the NT without seeing the critical connection between individuals, families and the church!

So even as your family reaches out, part of the goal should be to get people connected first to Christ through the Gospel, and then to the local church.

6. Household purpose works to grow **Wealth** for Kingdom reasons.

A great verse in Deuteronomy:

Deuteronomy 8:18-20 (KJV) *But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day. 19 And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. 20 As the nations which the LORD destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God.*

Power to get wealth was for the establishment of covenant! A covenant is a spiritual agreement between the LORD and His people. The New Covenant is a covenant of grace whereby our sins are forgiven through the atoning work of Christ.

Family wealth should be grown and directed for this purpose: that people might come to know Jesus and begin “taking dominion.”

The BHH must save, invest, and give. It must give some attention to leaving an inheritance spiritually, relationally, financially, and physically.

Some of you may be in survival mode; that’s ok. God is able! So go ahead and start dreaming...

Would it look like if your household was out of debt? What would it look like if you had many months of living expenses in the bank? What would it look like if you had the financial freedom to disciple your children the way you want to or give to causes you're passionate about?

What is your family doing to grow its wealth? Have you ever thought about a family business? How are the individual pursuits in the household connected to the overall mission/vision?

<https://www.ccmcleod.com/building-a-financial-house>

7. **A Biblically-healthy household pursues Multi-Generational Faithfulness.**

Again, the BHH thinks long term.

Please know that the essence of a *unified purpose* cannot be just for “now.” It must outlast your life, establishing the rule of Jesus Christ in everything over which we have charge...into the future if the LORD carries!

Prayerfully, it will begin with our children. Why? Because growing wealth and having purpose doesn’t mean much if we lose our children!

Psalms 78:5-8 (KJV) *For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: 6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: 7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments: 8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.*

So LORD, save our children! Please LORD! Then we look into the future...

What will your children's children think about the life you're living now? Are you leaving anything behind for them to read or to learn about the God that you serve?

Have you ever thought about speaking to future generations through the business you build or the journals you write or what you pour into your own children?

Please make sure that as you consider the unified purpose of your household, you think about those are yet to come!

Final exhortations:

We are living in very interesting days. There is much uncertainty, but God is great! We don't know exactly what's going to happen, but God does!

Many people are resetting their focus, most out of necessity. While things are moving and shaking, reset your household on God's Word!

Gather the family and build your mission statement. Have fun doing it! 🍷

Dream about how you and your household can have an impact on those who live next-door, or those who live down the street, or those in your social media sphere of influence!

Dream about how you might impact people in other nations and the generations yet to come!

8. Allow God to use your family beloved; allow the Lord Jesus Christ to have His will and way under your roof.

9. Build upon the Rock: build for the long-term; build for the glory of God.

Amen!