**September 9, 2018 “Husbands Love Your Wives” Ephesians 5:25-33**

As I was thinking about this sermon for today which is really about to how to build a quality home-life for all members; husband, wife and children, I came to the realization that we live in a really mixed up world. Consider this, especially those of you are a little older, like me, the things that are happening in what many people call “homes” today.

We have stay at home Dads, where the woman is the main bread winner and Dad stays home with the kids. We have many men who simply refuse to work and they constantly are looking for some woman to take care of them and if one isn’t meeting their expectations… they find another… usually within a week or so.

We have so-called ministers who will leave or have left their wife and children and proclaim that they are now gender challenged or after 30 years of marriage are now proclaiming and even exalting the fact that they are now in a same sex relationship while still wanting to be in a preaching and teaching position within this or that denomination.

Many people today are opting to just live together rather than get married because they don’t want to get “tied down”. Others try to do it all… whatever that means…

* Climb the corporate ladder
* Gain more recognition
* Try to do it all…

That is all fine and dandy for the non-believer or lukewarm so-called Christian but what about those who earnestly desire to follow Christ with their lives? What are to be the priorities of life for them?

1. I Corinthians 11:3
   1. The responsibility of the success of your marriage
      1. Belongs to the man
      2. God has placed you in charge of your home
         1. Men’s liberation movement
            1. Own agenda
            2. Own goals
            3. Own interests
   2. “A series of historical events, beginning at the Industrial Revolution and traversing the search for American independence in the second great awakening and culminating in Victorianism, has had the net result of disestablishing American men from the true role of fatherhood and moral leadership in our land. The American male, at one time the ever-present guide of the close-knit colonial family, left his family for the factory and the materialistic lure that the Industrial Revolution brought.

The most numerous and most active members of the church, the men, who commonly debated theology in the colonial marketplace, were in time to be found arguing business practices in the tavern. The fathers, who labored hard to instill the value of cooperation in their children, in time gave their children the example of unlimited individual competition. Men who once taught their children respect and obedience toward godly authority came to act as though independence were a national virtue. Men who once had an active hand in the education of their sons relegated this responsibility to a public-school system dominated by female teachers and feminine learning patterns. Once the leaders of social progress, American men came to look on social reform and mercy movements as women’s work and in time became themselves the objects of that social reform, as in the case of movements such as the Women’s Christian Temperance Union. Over the course of 150 years from the mid-18th century to the end of the 19th century, American men walked out on their God-given responsibility for moral and spiritual leadership in the homes, schools, and Sunday schools of the nation.”

1. Six times… Ephesians 5:25-33 “love”
   1. Why?
      1. Ephesians 5:31…
         1. You became one flesh
         2. One union
      2. Matthew 18:1-11
         1. Children
         2. What about your wife?
            1. There are going to be stumbling blocks
            2. Whose responsible to look out for them
            3. To remove them?
   2. Ephesians 5:28-29… as Christ does the church
      1. John 14:12-14
         1. Ask anything
      2. Matthew 6:30-34
         1. Seek the kingdom of God first
      3. I Timothy 5:8
         1. Husbands… your role is that of a provider
   3. Ephesians 5:29… two words
      1. Nourish
         1. How often do I as a husband
         2. Nourish my wife spiritually and emotionally?
      2. Cherish
         1. Greek… means to “keep warm”… “to melt”
         2. Used…..like a hen with her chicks

In closing… it is my opinion after 30+ years of ministry, that the worst thing that can ever happen to a family is for one member of that family to commit suicide.

Note Ephesians 5:28… as their own bodies. Men if we are not taking the responsibility of our homes seriously, looking out for all the stumbling blocks assailing our homes and nourishing our entire household… we will literally be committing suicide to ourselves in our own homes.