

Disciple
“A Family Builder”

RECAP of the series.

Matthew 19:4-6 “Haven’t you read the Scriptures?” Jesus replied. “They record that from the beginning ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁵ And he said, “‘This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.’ ⁶ Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.”

Is a Family Builder a Disciple? (**In the Hispanic culture, there is a tradition of family**)

Can someone be a Family Builder without being a Disciple of Christ?

BUT Are Disciples of Christ called to be a “Family Builder?”

Parenting, like anything else, is a skill.

With important skills, there are metrics to decide who is or isn't good at them.

Lawyers must take the bar exam before they can be lawyers. Doctors must go to medical school.

Garbage collectors must be trained in proper sanitation procedures.

Parents don't have to do anything other than get pregnant.

That means that nothing stops unprepared, unskilled people from having children.

Today, the family unit is being attacked by liberalism and anti-God teachings.

It is doing everything possible to deface and demoralize the family. **Why is that?**

God established three Institutions: The Home, the Church, and the Government of the Land.

The Home should be the strongest institution. Romans 13:1-7

Hebrews 3:4 For every house has a builder, but the one who built everything is God.

God has given us His instructions for parenting, but too often we raise our children to be what we want them to be or become. God’s glory does not come through our desire for our children to be doctors and lawyers. Neither does it come in our desire for our children to have good behavior and be good citizens to make us proud.

These things are all done in vain if not done for God.

How many times in history have great cities and monuments been built to glorify man?

A question to ask would be if we could think of any city or monument that has not been built for human glory.

I. What is a Family Builder?

What are our priorities?

Could it be a good career?

Is it having an education for our children?

Might it be having lots of money in the bank?

What constitutes success in life?

Order of Priorities:

The Lord, Family, Work, and then Church.

- **Psalm 127:1** Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. (NLT)
- **Matthew 7: 24-27** **“One who built his house on the rock.”**
“One who built his house on the sand.” Storms came on both houses.
How are you building your home?

I. What does the Bible say about being a Family Builder?

Mosaic Covenant, two of the Ten Commandments deal with maintaining the cohesiveness of the family. The fifth commandment, which is to honor parents, is meant to preserve the authority of parents, and the seventh commandment, prohibiting adultery, protects the sanctity of marriage.

- **1 Corinthians 3:10-15** Because of God’s grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. ¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. ¹² Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. ¹³ But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value. ¹⁴ If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.

Symbolisms in the Bible:

Gold – wealth, power; **Silver** – abundance; **Jewels** – beauty, durability; **Wood** – inner strength; **Hay** – materiality; **Straw** – human inconsistency.

While hay and straw look similar and are found together, but different.

Straw is made of grain stalks; hay is made of dried grass. Hay is made for animal feed, while straw is made for bedding.

The first three represent our good works and faithful service, while the last three represent things done of the flesh.

II. What is your Mission?

Have you ever asked yourself?

I remember my pastor many years ago saying, “Your calling is to the world, but your mission is your family.”

Calling – a strong inner impulse toward a particular course of action, especially when accompanied by conviction of divine influence.

The task is given when we answer the call.

Mission – a specific task with which a person or a group is charged; the function or position of an ambassador; the mission is our assignment.

Use the platform that God has given you to bring others to Christ.

- **Mark 8:36** And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?

Lifefactors.org

"Fatherless Children are at a dramatically greater risk of drug and alcohol abuse, mental illness, suicide, poor educational performance, teen pregnancy, and criminality." - *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1993*

"In studies involving over 25,000 children using nationally representative data sets, children who lived with only one parent had lower grade point averages, lower college aspirations, poor attendance records, and higher dropout rates than students who lived with both parents." – *Sara McLanahan, Gary Sandefur, Growing Up With a Single Parent: What Hurts, What Helps.*

"I have worked with thousands of homosexuals. I have never seen a homosexual who had a loving respectful relationship with his father." - *Dr. Joseph Nicolosi*

"Boys who grow up in father absent homes are more likely than those in father present homes to have trouble establishing appropriate sex roles and gender identity." – *P.L. Adams, J.R. Milner, Fatherless Children*

"85% of youths in prisons grew up in a fatherless home." – *U. S. D.H.H.S. Bureau of the Census*

"71% of pregnant teenage girls come from a fatherless home" - *US D.H.H.S.*

"Children whose parents separate are significantly more likely to engage in early sexual activity, abuse drugs, and experience conduct and mood disorders. This effect is especially strong for children whose parents separated when they were five or younger." - *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 33 (1994)*

"Three out of four teenage suicides occur in households where a parent has been absent." – *Jean Bethke Elshtain, Family Matters: The Plight of America's Children. The Christian Century (July 1993)*

"80% of rapists motivated with displaced anger come from fatherless homes." - *Criminal Justice & Behavior, Vol. 14*