

Victory Connect Lesson
Five Signs of a Healthy Family
Guest Speaker:
Dr. Gary Chapman
September 22, 2024

Key Passage: *Read:* Eph 5:15 through Eph 6:4.

Introduction: The Bible has instructions for each member of the family. It also has general guidance for everyone: Eph 5:21 KJV - Submitting yourselves one to another... Phl 2:3 RSV ...in humility count others better than yourselves.

Five Signs of a Healthy Family

1. An attitude of service. *[It's hard to resist someone who is serving you.]* Eph 5:22, 25 KJV - Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ... Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

2. Intimacy between husband and wife. *[This is more than just physical, it includes emotional, social, spiritual, and intellectual closeness.]* Eph 5:31 KJV - For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

3. Parents who teach and train. *[This includes words and actions, they must go together in the context of love.]* Eph 6:4 KJV - And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the **nurture and admonition** of the Lord.

4. Husbands will be loving-leaders. *[Jesus is our example, He died for the Church He loved.]* Eph 5:25, 28 KJV - Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; ... So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

5. Children honor and obey their parents. *[Obedience builds responsibility and respect for authority. Honor is more caught than taught.]* Eph 6:1-2 KJV - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

Discussion Questions:

1. Which of these five is a strength in your family?
2. Is one of these areas weak in your family?
3. What steps can you take to strengthen your family?

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