



worldoutreach
SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP

SERIES SEVEN

MODULE ONE: LEADING WELL IN YOUR HOME



Outline Session 1 - 2

1. Foundational principles
2. How to keep our marriages strong and healthy?
3. How to protect our homes and honour our children?

SESSION ONE: FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES. WHY LOOKING AFTER OUR HOMES IS SO IMPORTANT?

Introduction:

To lead a great church, you must become a great leader. As a great leader, there are many things you must do well, such as pray, preach, teach, pastor, manage finances, raise leaders and cast vision. But the most important is to lead in your home! Be a great husband/wife and father/mother.

Recent statistics:

- Only 1 out of every 10 who start in ministry actually finish
- 80% leave in the first 5 years
- 5% make it through to retirement

The reality is that many leaders'/pastors' marriages are struggling, their homes are far from perfect, and their kids resent the church and are away from God.

Why?

- Pastors and leaders are targets.
- Pastors and leaders are no different from anyone else – we need to put healthy habits in place that keep us thriving for a lifetime.

Please note: It takes more than prayer & spirituality to have a great marriage and raise a godly family. We have to work at it diligently and intelligently.

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

See 1 Timothy 3:1-5

1. Your home is your greatest mission field

- Real leadership is worked out in the home before anywhere else – if you can't lead your home, you won't be able to fully lead in the church.
- There is no greater responsibility or joy than seeing your spouse and children prosper.

2. A Happy home means you can live life and minister from the "overflow"

- "Happy wife, happy life." "Happy spouse, happy house."
- What our people need most is a pastor and his family who are thriving – hopelessly in love, enjoying life, raising awesome kids, and living authentic lives.

3. Family is for life

- They will be there long after everybody else is gone.

4. Nobody but YOU is going to fight for your health, marriage, home, or your children

- Nobody else is responsible for the state of your marriage and home-life except you.
- YOU must take responsibility and make sure you are doing the things that will keep your marriage and your homes strong and healthy!

SESSION TWO: HOW DO WE KEEP OUR MARRIAGES STRONG AND HEALTHY

1. Get a (biblical) vision

- Get a "God-blessed expectation" (vision) of what your marriage and home should look like!
- See Psalm 128.

2. Build biblically

Strong home is built on a biblical model, NOT on our culture or our own experiences or environment. Key Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-33.

A. Husband is the spiritual head

A husband's highest **responsibility** is to provide an environment where the wife can thrive.

B. Healthy marriage is a partnership

It is TWO people working together!

Submission:

Husbands - **LOVE** because the more you care for her, the better it is for you;

Wives – **SUBMIT** because you know he cares and wants the best.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Here are a few simple things that can keep your marriage strong and healthy:

1. Pray together

- "A marriage that *prays* together stays together."
- Benefits of praying together: (A) combine your faith, (B) share the same vision/dreams, (C) open a "window" into each other's hearts.

2. Learn one another's love language.

- The five 'love languages' are touch, time, acts of service, gifts and affirmation.
- Unless a spouse expresses their love language, their spouse will never "FEEL" loved.
- If you're not sure of your spouse's love language, ASK!

3. Play together

- "A marriage that *PLAYS* together stays together."

4. Spend the money!

- Invest in your marriage by spending money on gifts, eating out, time out, and hotels.
- Quick tips on money and managing the finances: Don't have secrets & have equal responsibility.

5. Watch your mouth

- Proverbs 31:28-29
- Give praise where praise is due by expressing public honour, but never criticizing
- Wives, build him up!

Summing up: God wants to bless our homes. Great marriages and happy homes don't happen by accident, but are built on the things we do and don't do.

SESSION THREE: HOW DO WE PROTECT OUR HOMES AND HONOUR OUR CHILDREN?

1. Establish clear boundaries

- Protect the borders of your home.
- **Warning:** Your marriage/family time will be **stolen** by other people and non-urgent issues - if you allow it!
- **Solution:** Establish and maintain boundaries – learn to say “no”.
- See Luke 5:15 *‘But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places for prayer.’*

2. Always keep the garbage outside the home

- Don't bring the troubles of the church back into your living room – don't waste time going through the garbage together.
- If you want a happy home, don't waste time talking about all the "bad stuff" and "problems".
- **Protect your kids** by only ever speaking positive of people, ministry, etc., and cultivating great relationships.

3. Make sure your children know they are more important to you than the church

- In ministry, we can be so busy that we can neglect our own children.
- Generation of fathers that never spent time with their kids, even though they provided and loved them. Sadly, this meant that the fathers became "emotional strangers".
- Our children spell love differently than we do by spelling it as - “TIME”.

CONCLUSION

Not “either/or” – it’s both!

You CAN have a great marriage/Life AND be successful in ministry.