



Connecting to Colonial's Covenant – 10
September 13, 2015

Pastor Phelps
Eph. 6:1-3

COMMITMENT #10 – COMMITTED TO FAMILIES

When Colonial's first members signed the church's charter, they made a covenantal commitment. Every subsequent member has been added to a community committed to a covenant. While Colonial's Covenant is subordinate to Scripture, nevertheless, it remains an important document for those who would walk together in harmony (Amos 3:3). The third paragraph of Colonial's Covenant says:

We engage to maintain family and private devotions; to train our children in the fear and the admonition of the Lord; (and) to seek the salvation of our kindred.

This paragraph calls for every member to make a commitment to our families. The foundations of the family have been under attack for decades in America (Ps. 11:3). With the destruction of America's family values there has been a growing _____ anarchy.

As Moses led the children of Israel to the border of the Promised Land and prepared them to enter in, he spent time fortifying families. Moses knew that the family is the building-block of a great _____. He understood that the family is God's first institution for the well-being of the nation. In Deuteronomy 6, Moses firms the foundations of the family by sharing the secrets for passing along the faith. Deuteronomy 6 has long been considered the "Magna-Charta of Christian Education." This passage deals with three matters that are essential the well-being of the family:

THE PREREQUISITE TO A GODLY HOME

Deuteronomy 6:4 is the Great Shema. This monotheistic confession was recited by God-honoring Jews each morning and each evening in their homes. In verse 5, we find the "First and great commandment" (Mt. 22:37-38). It is important to note that before Moses deals with the pupil (v. 7), he deals with the _____. Passing along our faith is more a matter of the heart than it is of the head (Prov. 23:26). Because phonies make bad coaches, the Spirit of God speaks specifically about two of the greatest dangers to effective child-rearing:

THE _____ OF THE TEACHERS (v. 6).
In his book, *Growing Kids God's Way*, John Stormer says, "Children are not likely to be better adjusted, happier, or more successful than their parents. Therefore, it behooves parents to pay special attention to their _____ (Phil. 4:9).

THE _____ OF MEN (v. 6-7).
The Spirit of God is specifically focused on the _____. Harold Voth of the Menninger Foundation has said, "If the husband and _____ is not clearly the head of the family, there can be nothing but chaos. The father is responsible for the structure and form of the home, for establishing family standards, character, direction, and strength. If he does not do it, the family is ruined!"

THE PRACTICE OF A GODLY HOME

The words translated, "teach diligently," speak of "whetting or sharpening." They picture the idea of penetrating so as to make a keen and sharp impression. There are two crucial times to make this impression:

IN _____ WALK (v. 7-9).
The couplets selected here describe virtually every aspect of daily routine in the home. At mealtime, bedtime, work time, and rest time the faith of the family is to be evident. Ours is an _____ religion.

IN _____ TALK (v. 20-25).
Parents should discerningly look forward to directional dialogue. As children move through life stages they mature to learn greater life lessons.

THE PROBLEMS FACING THE GODLY HOME

As Moses warns the conquering nation of three problems that they will face:

UNDERSERVED _____ (v. 10-11).

UNCARING _____ (v. 12).

UNBIBLICAL _____ (v. 13-15).



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