

THE DIVINE ORDER OF FAMILY LIFE.

Family Life of Jesus Christ

- Luke 2:1-21 – Tells us about the birth of Jesus up to His circumcision.
- Luke 2:41-52 – We are told that his parents took Him to the temple...when it was time to leave, Jesus stayed back, and His parents began looking for Him. This tells us that Jesus had a very healthy and interactive family life ... at least with His parents.
- John 2:3-5 NIV – Jesus' mother tells Him there is no wine and she turns to the disciples and tells them to do whatever He ask them to do.
- John 2:12 NLT - After the wedding he went to Capernaum for a few days with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples.
- John 7:1-12 – Jesus' brothers encouraged Him to leave Galilee and go to Judea after the Jewish festival; So that His disciples may see the works that He does. Jesus refused yet went privately.

Things begin to turn around...

- **While talking about the cost of being a disciple, Jesus says this in Luke 14:26**
“If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers, and sisters – yes, even their own life – such a person cannot be my disciple.

Excerpt from www.biblehub.com

3404 *miséō* – properly, to detest (on a *comparative* basis); hence, *denounce*; to *love someone or something less* than someone (something) else, i.e. to renounce one choice in favor of another.

That brings us to today's text...

✚ Jesus had a biological family (family life), yet He reigned as a King and a Priest upon the earth. What was His secret?

For some of us, family has instead become the very source of limitation and the reason why we cannot reign as Kings and Priests upon the earth.

Matthew 12:46-50

Jesus' Mother and Brothers Send for Him

⁴⁶ While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him.

⁴⁷ Then one said to Him, "Look, **Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You.**"

⁴⁸ But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "**Who is My mother and who are My brothers?**"

⁴⁹ And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "**Here are My mother and My brothers!**"

⁵⁰ **For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.**"

Jesus occupied Himself by ministering to "people" and He is later told that Your mother and brothers are outside seeking to speak with You. He stretches His hands towards His disciples and says, "**Here are My mother and My brothers!**"

Then Jesus gives us a divine definition of family right there...

⁵⁰ For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is **My brother and sister and mother.**"

1] According to the divine order of family, divine families are without borders... meaning it is not limited to a lineal or direct descent.

Ephesians 1:5 NLT

⁵ God decided in advance **to adopt us** into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

John 19:25-27 NIV

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, **"Woman, here is your son,"**

²⁷ and to the disciple, **"Here is your mother."** From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

2] According to the divine order of family, family is one who does the WILL of God.

Matthew 12:50 NIV

⁵⁰ For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

- ✚ There are 2 births – natural birth and spiritual birth. Spiritual birth trumps natural birth. And we are encouraged to live according to the standards of the spiritual birth (born from above).
- ✚ If we depend on our natural birth - It is impossible to do the WILL of the Father.

- ✚ If we become born from above, the Holy Spirit helps us to effortlessly do the will of the Father.
 - ✚ When we become born from above; it becomes difficult to blend even with our biological family; because our sole purpose now becomes getting them saved so that they can be adopted into the new/divine family.
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3] According to the divine order of family, family are those who receive your undivided spiritual attention without challenging your authority.

Matthew 12:46-47 NIV

⁴⁶ While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him.

⁴⁷ Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You."

- ✚ Quite often when our biological family gets in the way of us advancing the Kingdom, we typically shrink back and not function as the kings and priest that we are.
I believe that the reason why we do so is because we think they are a priority. The first family, is our "first priority" ...our biological families ought to become part of the FIRST family ...but until then, continue to trust God for the wisdom on how to bring them in.
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4] According to the divine order of family, family are those who will not resist you from reigning as King and Priest upon the earth.

One of the biggest mistakes we all make is that we think we can put God aside and then attend to our families (biological families). Then, later return to God...

In that instance, have you realized that who and what you call family has instead become a stumbling block to your reign as king and priest?

John 19:25-27 NIV

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "**Woman, here is your son,**"

²⁷ and to the disciple, "**Here is your mother.**" From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Matthew 6:33 KJV

³³ But seek ye **first the kingdom of God**, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

It is in seeking the First family, first, that we find solutions for our biological families.

SIDE NOTES

- **Giving birth to children is a [kingdom] assignment.** We are vessels through which others get into this world. It is not a passport to become attached to the individuals; petting them, or being consumed by them, etc.
- **Be careful how you love your children because they can quickly become your idols.**
- If we start looking at our children, husbands, wives, nieces, nephews, cousins, as disciples and actively make disciples out of them, "**family life would be so different**".

- Recognize that because we are vessels, we cannot fulfill every assignment in the lives of our family members. We have a designated role. Do well to play your part and then refer them to others who can help them. Amen.
- Spiritual loyalty must be our priority and once that is established, we receive the wisdom on how to attend to “family assignments”.

That is why Jesus repeatedly renounced his own natural family ties when they stood in conflict with higher spiritual loyalties.

In conclusion, if we must follow Jesus’ pattern of divine family order...

The only way that your investments and sacrifice into your family will count for something, it is when Jesus Christ becomes the center of it all. It is He who holds all things together.

In Jesus name. Amen.

Let us pray.

Proverbs 22:6 [NIV]

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

[1] Pray against Condemnation

Romans 8:1-2 NKJV

¹*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who^[a] do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

Some of us live in utter condemnation because ...

- Of what we did or did not do.
- We keep thinking of what could have been or should have been if we did xyz.
- We regret our past actions and current circumstances.

But I have come to remind you about the blood of Jesus Christ.

**The blood of Jesus Christ has not only purchased you, but has also redeemed you.
There is a difference...**

[Begin to renounce condemnation now and appropriate the blood of Jesus Christ in your life].

[2] Father, realign my thoughts, words, and actions according to the divine order of family.

[3] It's reward season – Position yourself to be served by the Lord by keeping the watches. That is what Priests do.

The Lord wants to serve you at a particular watch...With Himself.

Isaiah 49:22-23 [KJV]

²² Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.

²³ And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

Luke 12:37-38 [AMPC]

³⁷ Blessed (happy, fortunate, and to be envied) are those servants whom the master finds awake *and* alert *and* watching when he comes. **Truly I say to you, he will gird [fortify; get ready; fortify] himself and have them recline at table and will come and serve them!**

³⁸ If he comes in the second watch (before midnight) or the third watch (after midnight), and finds them so, blessed (happy, fortunate, and ^[b]to be envied) are those servants!

Receive grace to position yourself during the specific watches and receive your blessing [direction; wisdom; realignment, etc] this season. In Jesus' Name. Amen.