What God Says about ... Protecting Your Family

Psalm 11:3

Dr. Stephen Rummage, Senior Pastor Bell Shoals Baptist Church March 7, 2018 *First Wednesday*

Psalm 11:3 (ESV)

If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?

"We have been swept by social, technological and cultural revolution. The **family blew up**—divorce, unwed childbearing. Fatherless sons. Fatherless daughters, too. Poor children with no one to love them." — Peggy Noonan

Parents can protect the family through ...

1. Dedication to Your Marriage and Family

Genesis 2:24 (ESV)

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Matthew 19:6 (ESV)

So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

Romans 7:2 (ESV)

For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.

1 Corinthians 13:4 (The Message)

Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head,

1 Corinthians 13:5 (The Message)

Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

1 Corinthians 13:6 (The Message)

Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,

1 Corinthians 13:7 (The Message)

Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.

Genuine love is about what we do, not what we feel. Love dedicates itself to the other person.

2. Dialogue with Each Other

Speak the truth to one another in love

Ephesians 4:15 (ESV)

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ,

Ephesians 4:25 (ESV)

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Don't hold on to anger

Ephesians 4:26 (ESV)

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

Ephesians 4:27 (ESV)

and give no opportunity to the devil.

Encourage each other

Ephesians 4:29 (ESV)

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Determine to forgive

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

3. Devotion to Jesus Christ

Psalm 11:3 (ESV)

if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

1 Corinthians 3:11 (ESV)

For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Be devoted to Jesus in your personal family.

Be devoted to Jesus in your church family.

Hebrews 10:24 (ESV)

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

Hebrews 10:25 (ESV)

not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Be devoted to Jesus in the family of God.

John 1:12 (ESV)

But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God,

John 1:13 (ESV)

who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.