

The Girl's Room

1Timothy 5:11-14; Titus 5:3-5

July 14th, 2013

Series 12

Which institution do you believe is the foundation of society between government, business, recreation, schools, or homes? Most everyone will say the home. Based on this premise, we are going to talk about rearing girls. We are basing it on the first general principle of parenting; that we should parent backwards. We should have the end goal in mind. The end goal for most of us is for our boys to grow up to be holy young men who become husbands and fathers, unless God has given them the gift of singleness. Our goal for our girls is to grow up to be holy young ladies who will become wives and mothers, unless God has blessed them with the gift of singleness.

Scripture

1Timothy 5:11-14

"But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not. So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander."

Paul is instructing Timothy concerning the welfare of the ladies in the Church. He is primarily addressing what happens in his society when her

husband dies. He is discussing which ladies the Church should take care of, and which ones they should not. It was a difficult situation in that day. From his instructions to Timothy, there are some principles about being a wife and mother.

Titus 2:3-5

"Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled."

(You should also read Proverbs 31. It is a great chapter about a virtuous wife and mother.)

Manager of the Home

When Paul addresses Timothy and Titus as leaders of the Church, he gives great instruction about the role of men and the role of women in the Church and in the home. Paul uses a word in Timothy that is a compound word which talks about being the ruler, the manager, or the authority figure at home. The ESV translates it as managing the household. In Titus, he uses a word that means to give care, to exert energy, to work, to guard, to watch over, and to keep the home.

Because God has ordained the husband to be the head of the home, there is no doubt that the great thrust of the husband in the home is to give leadership, physically, spiritually, and psychologically. We know the Bible teaches that the wife, in relationship to the husband, is the body. I think we sometimes struggle with what her responsibility is. But if we read Scripture, it is clear that the husband is to be the leader of the home, and the wife is to be the manager of the home.

Leadership is about doing the right things. Management is about doing things right. We rear our boys to be men and lead their families to do the right things. We need to teach our daughters how to do things right; we teach them to be a manager.

When you hear about a manager of a government institution, or a business, or school, do we devalue that position? No, we hold it in high esteem. As a matter of fact, we have people furthering their schooling and getting doctorate degrees in management in large institutions, and we applaud them for it. Yet, we say that those institutions are not the foundation of our society, the home is. So, why would we devalue this role in our homes? God values ladies so much that He put them in charge of the most important institution on the face of the planet! It is the one place that affects school, recreation, business, and government. As a church, we need to make a biblical shift to quit defining a woman as a housewife. A woman is not married to a house; she is married to a man. Neither should we define a woman as a stay-at-home mom, or a working mom. Motherhood is not the primary purpose of a woman. It is to have a relationship with a man so that together, in oneness, they bear the image of God.

In no way does this minimize single women, but generally, it is God's will for society to be based on a union of a husband and a wife. We must rear our boys to be men who will lead, and lead to do the right things. But so many young men are leading the family down wrong paths. We must rear our girls to be the best managers they can possibly be in the greatest institution on the planet. A home manager; what an awesome job!

I found this definition of management: **The act of getting people together to accomplish desired goals and objectives using available resources efficiently and effectively.**

That is what the ladies will do, they will manage. They will get every member of the family on the same page so that we can accomplish our

goals and objectives. We will use the resources that God supplies, efficiently and effectively.

Five Functions of Management

1. Planning
2. Organizing
3. Commanding
4. Controlling
5. Motivating

As wives and mothers, husbands and dads, we have to parent our girls so they understand the functions of management. They have to know how to plan, organize, command, control, and motivate.

I know that some of you ladies are just now realizing for the first time that this is exactly what you do! Don't you wish you had known this before you got married? It might have shed some light on those first few years when you were constantly butting heads with your husband. God didn't bring you into your husband's life so that you could lead, but to learn to trust him in his role as head. Your responsibility is to be the manager.

There is another word in the Bible that is used for house. It doesn't talk about being ruler, or keeper, but a servant of the house. That is what we have applied to ladies. Many husbands have given this impression to their wives and daughters. But that isn't the biblical role. Now, it's biblical and godly to have an attitude of being a leader who is a servant. Jesus had a servant leadership. In the management duties as a wife, you are a servant manager, but you aren't a servant to the house. You have oversight of the house. Therefore, we must teach our daughters to plan, organize, command, control, and motivate, and we must do it through values.

I don't like to teach behavior, I like to teach character, identity, and values. I want to share seven values to be a good home manager. We need to teach our daughters to value these things.

Teaching the Value of:

1. Home

If I owned a restaurant, I would want my manager to understand the value of making a good product. If I owned an engine shop, I would want my manager to understand the value of the company. I am not sure if we are doing a very good job anymore in teaching the value of the home.

I don't know if the Church really believes if the color of the world is ordained to be purple (husband and wife together). Most ladies believe it is a blue world, and some are desperately trying to make it pink. Many have been reared in a culture where our home was more like a hotel rather than a home. A home isn't a place to just check in and check out, or use when you haven't anything else to do. Moms, you have to train your daughter to understand the value of home and why you manage it the way you do; because it is the most important thing to their dad, your husband. To dad, a home is a place where he gets his energy. It is a place where he gets energized, physically, spiritually, and psychologically. A man should not have to go somewhere else to get his energy, or to get his batteries charged. That should come from home! For the children, it is camp where they are being trained to one day recognize who God has called them to be. And, they can live the rest of their life doing it, because it is flowing out of who they really are. They receive that training at home. In essence, they will leave home and want to build a home for their kids just like the one you built for them. The greatest compliment you will have is when you see your daughter managing her home as you managed your home. The husband will not be able to wait to get home. It will be amazing how you will see his interest change when that is what home becomes.

2. Authority

Our daughters must learn the principle of Matthew chapter 8, which is to be over, you have to be under. To have authority, you have to be under authority. In management, you only have authority if you are under

authority. If the manager is not under the authority of the owner or the leader of the business, they have no ultimate authority. But once you have been given authority, there comes great responsibilities. You are now responsible for the consequence of your actions. There are many who are in management positions who know that because they are under the authority of their leader, they have the authority to make a decision. When they make a decision, it is on their shoulders.

We want our young girls to know that they have been empowered to make decisions that are in line with the leader of their home. When you do that, you have authority in the life of your children. I am still convinced that the reason many of our children are not under proper authority is because they never saw daddy under authority. And because the wife didn't see him under the authority of the Lord, she didn't bring herself under the authority of him. She did her own thing, and then the children get to an age where they don't listen to her. When you start tearing down the authority of the leader of the home, you are tearing down your own authority. We have to teach them to understand that we respect the leader of the home, our husband, who just happens to be their daddy. This is how we teach authority. When there is marital conflict and mom is leading in another direction, you will think the kids take your side when you tell them how daddy is. But you need to remember that daddy is not your kid's husband. They don't see him as a husband; they see him as a daddy. They see a side to this marital conflict that you don't because you are the wife. When you tear down authority, you have a rebellion on your hands. We have to teach our daughters there are consequences to disobeying authority.

3. Order

We have to get back to this. If you are a manager of a home, everything has a place. Most of the time, it should be in its place. When you get a butcher knife out, do you leave it lying on the table? When you get the lighter out to light the grill, do you leave it on the table? No, because it's

not safe. Order brings safety to our life. It also allows us to be efficient and effective.

I want to propose that we teach our daughters that toys go in the toy box unless they are being played with. If you aren't playing with a toy, you should know where it is...it's in the toy box. There is no order in most of our homes. There isn't a government, or school, or business that is allowed to be run that way. Yet, we believe it is ok for there to be disorder in our home. Clothes don't lie on the bed, they go in the closet. Towels don't lie on the floor; they go in the hamper, or towel rack. We have to teach our daughters about order so that when they start their own home there is order.

I have never had a leader complain about order in his home. But I have had many complain about disorder in their home. Order starts at home. If we don't have time to put it back when we are done with it, we don't have time to get it out. If we choose to get it out, we have to learn the discipline to put it back before we do the next thing.

4. Discipline

We have this image that dad goes off to work and works all day long, but what does mom do? Mom is working too. Many of our moms moonlight at a job, by choice or by circumstance. They are gifted in a certain way and are using those gifts, and they bring in an income. But mom, you are still the manager of the home. As the manager, you have to teach your daughter the value of work, energy, and getting things done efficiently and effectively. This is why I am for chores.

I have a friend who learned how to run a company from his dad. If you don't know him, you might think that it just fell into his lap. But when you talk to him and his dad, he didn't start out in a manager's seat. He started at the bottom and worked his way up. Those people make the best managers.

How will a lady know how to manage a household if she has never dealt with household facilities or relationships? Would you want to hire someone in a management level position with no experience? That is exactly what husbands are doing. We are getting married and our wife has no experience because mom and dad gave her none. We were so busy doing everything that society says we should be doing that we forgot that God gave her to us to get her ready for the second most important decision she will ever make. That is the decision of who she will marry, and to become the manager of a home. She learns this at home.

If you are a parent who parented where it is all about the child, you are worn out, exhausted, and ready for Jesus to come back. But a manager has to divide the work. A man, as a leader, is not exempt from listening to his wife as the manager. Your job is to lead in doing the right thing, and your wife's job is to manage it. It doesn't mean that she is the head; it means that she is the manager. She has to divide up the work, and she has assignments for you and the kids. That's why I believe the Bible teaches in the Old Testament that children are a blessing from the Lord. There are more laborers in the home to get things done! I am being serious, that is the blessing of a large family. In our society, we want to give our kids more, so we have less. We want to ask less of them rather than have more and ask more of them. Something about that is not right.

5. Relationships

We have to teach our girls to love their husbands and to respect them. We do that by example. We have to teach them that the relationship with a child is one of authority and obedience. We have to live that out so they will duplicate it when they get married and have children.

6. Motivation

Please don't let your daughter scream, or cry, or bat her eyes and get her way. That isn't proper motivation. A manager has to motivate. There will be times you have to motivate your husband, your children, and even

yourself. But motivation is the key in institutions. Moms, we have to teach our daughters how to motivate positively, not negatively. I have never understood why a wife doesn't want to be screamed at, but the first thing she does is to scream at her husband. The first thing she does is to yell at him to motivate him. That is negative motivation, and it has to be stopped in our management training.

7. Spending Plan

At some point, we have to start teaching our daughters the value of money. I knew early on that we had a problem with our daughter. She would want something and we would tell her that we didn't have the money. Then, she would ask us to write a check. She had no idea that you had to have money in the bank to write a check.

At a certain age, what would be wrong with giving our daughters what we believe they need to learn to live on and help them start making decisions of saving for the future and deciding what they spend? This might be better than just giving them what they want. When dads spoil our daughters because they are good girls, they will have a shock when they marry a guy who brings home minimum wage. Moms, instead of having our daughters peel the potatoes, why don't we show them how to go to the grocery with what we have to spend? Then have them plan five or six meals. We can show them why we don't buy Ding Dongs, but we can buy Great Value cakes. These are just some thoughts on how to become managers with a spending plan.

If our daughters don't learn to be managers at home, where will they learn? I wonder how marriages would change if boys chose a spouse based on whether she would be a great helpmeet and manager of his home. What if a girl considered a mate by what kind of leadership she thinks he will give? I wonder if our marriages would start being different.