

THE CHURCH IS A FAMILY

13/12/20

It shouldn't be surprising that the church of God is structured on the same principles as the family unit. Almost all the benefits and challenges of a family are also part of church life. The bible offers some wonderful insight.

Our first duty is to learn to fit in and work together as all family units do. 1COR 12:25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. You cannot think along the lines of liking or not liking your brothers and sisters; they are your family. Like your natural family, you love them unconditionally.

1PET 3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren (like your family), be pitiful, be courteous: 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. All our actions should reflect what God has asked us to do... not naturally minded preferences.

Purposes are spiritually inspired, not naturally learned. 2PET 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: What is God's primary focus? What is your primary focus?

The Church is not a social club.

Developing the church through its spiritual members. PRO 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. These wonderful words of wisdom are true in principle and are supported by God. Once our nature is set, then it is up to us to use the training and blessing we have received.

**This is what God's church offers you...*

Clear Salvation message with God given signs following.

Clear and easy to grasp scriptural directions, teaching and support, on all major topics.

Clear directions and numerous opportunities to develop and exercise all spiritual gifts.

Scripturally based help available whenever needed.

Unlimited fellowship opportunities.

Everyone of these above spiritual powers is freely available to all church members. God has asked all church members to seek and apply all its spiritual powers for the benefit of his family members. This is the way of life, that when exercised as a daily routine, brings positive changes and blessings. Natural jobs can never replace spiritual blessing. If we want God's joy, we need to focus what we have from God... not what we don't have.

God always offers increase... negativity always takes away from what we already have.

**This is what you offer the church...*

Priority one. MAT 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Remind yourself what you have and develop up your opportunities from there.

EVERY NATURAL PROBLEM IS ALSO SOLVED USING THE ABOVE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES AND POWERS.

We need to separate natural from the spiritual. JAM 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Spiritual actions unify the family of God, strengthen the individual and lead to solutions for all of life's problems.

Some basic directions. TIT 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: 2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. 3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

We may not have control over anything in this world, but we do have control over our spiritual choices and actions!

The strong care for the weak. ROM 15:1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. 3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

Self sacrifice for the common good is a trait of true Christians... not always easy, but well rewarded with lots of blessing.

The priority of all priorities. 1PET 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. 8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. 9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging. 10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. This is all about God's people. Walking in the Spirit is a way of Life, not a job we do when we are at the meeting.