

The Prattmont Church of Christ is just what the name suggests, a church that belongs to Christ. We are not a denomination; we are simply a group of Christians trying very hard to practice the teachings of our Head, Jesus Christ. The New Testament offers a complete pattern for what each local church should be like—its organization, its worship, its work, etc. We are committed to following that pattern. We cordially invite you to attend our services. We would also welcome any comments or questions about this bulletin.

**TIMES OF SERVICES:**

*Sunday*  
 Bible Classes.....9 A.M.  
 Worship ..... 10:00 A.M.  
 Worship/Bible Study..5 P.M.

*Wednesday:*  
 Bible Study..... 7:00 P.M.



*Weekly Bulletin*  
 March 9, 2025

**God’s Blueprint for the Home**

*by Bryan Gibson*

It’s revealed in Scripture (Proverbs 24:3-4), of course, but you won’t find it in one “cover all the bases” passage. His family teaching is scattered throughout the Bible, and some of the passages don’t even talk about specifically about the home (although application can surely be made). What should we look for, then, to make sure we have what we need?

1. Look at what God said when He instituted the home—what He said about the principles upon which it was built, and what He said about different roles within the family—and then notice how He reinforces these same points in the New Testament (Genesis 2:18-24, 3:1-24; 1 Corinthians 11:8-12; 1 Timothy 2:11-15).
2. Look for examples—good fathers and mothers to show us what to do; bad fathers and mothers to show us what not to do (e.g., Genesis 25:28; 1 Samuel 3:13; Joshua 24:14-15; 2 Timothy 1:5).

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3. Look for every command and principle you can find with any application to the home.
  - a. Begin of course with those that speak specifically about the home (quite a few in Proverbs; Ephesians 5:22-6:4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 2:15; 3:4-5, 12; 5:14; Titus 1:6; 2:3-5; 1 Peter 3:1-7).
  - b. Look for the many verses that address duties to “one another,” because these clearly have application to the home, too (e.g., Romans 12:10, 16; Ephesians 4:32; Philippians 2:3-4).
  - c. Because love is so essential to the home, look for everything God says about how love is supposed to behave (e.g., 1 Corinthians 13:4-8). But don’t stop there...
  - d. Look for all the passages designed to instill other virtues in us, in addition to love (e.g., Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 4:25-32; Colossians 3:12-14).
  - e. Keeping first things first is vital to a successful home, so look for all the principles that help us do just that (e.g., Luke 10:42; 3 John 1:4; Matthew 6:33).
  - f. With so much in the world to pull us away from the Lord (2 Timothy 4:10), let’s see what we can find to keep that from happening (e.g., Luke 8:14; 12:15; 1 John 2:15-17).
  - g. With good leadership required especially for husbands and fathers, look for good leaders (people like Ezra and Nehemiah, and the one perfect example of Jesus Christ).
4. Remember, the way God trains His children provides the perfect pattern for training ours, so pay very close attention to how He goes about it (New Testament is especially helpful here). And these are at least some of the principles upon which He trains us.

- a. He makes sure we understand His authority (“thus says the Lord”; “we command you in the name of the Lord Jesus”—phrases like these appear quite often). We can’t do much good with our children if they don’t respect our authority.
- b. He rewards good behavior and punishes bad behavior (ultimately with heaven and hell, but also with commendations/rebukes, etc.). Striking this balance of “goodness and severity” (Rom. 11:22) is important to bringing children up “in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4).
- c. Our spiritual well-being is clearly what matters most to Him. Be spiritually minded (Romans 8:6); set your mind on things above (Colossians 3:1-2); focus on the things that endure to everlasting life (John 6:27); abound in the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)—the very same points of emphasis we should use with our own children.
- d. He is of course very approachable. He invites us to make our requests to Him, to bring our burdens and anxieties to Him (e.g., Hebrews 2:16-18; 4:14-16; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Peter 5:6-7; 1 John 5:14-15). Don’t we need to be approachable, too? Can’t be much help to them if we don’t listen.
- e. He doesn’t just teach us how to live; He shows us—through the perfect example of His Son, and through others who imitated His Son (1 Peter 2:21; 1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17). The things we want our children to be—they need to see those same things in us. Children tend to remember much longer what we did than what we said.
- f. He has very high expectations for us, but He does allow time for growth (Eph. 4:11-13; Col. 1:9-12, 28; 2 Pet. 3:17-18; Heb. 12:5-11), and He knows just what to say to keep us striving to do better (e.g., Heb. 6:9; 10:32-39; Phil. 1:6-7).
- g. He “is love” (1 John 4:8), and so the more we can learn about this perfect divine love, the better we’ll do in showing that same love to our children.