**In-Laws & Out-Laws**

**Reading – Matthew 10:34-39**

**LEAVE FATHER AND MOTHER**

Marriage demands a leaving. ***"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother..." (Genesis 2:24a).***

Sometimes this is hard for father. ***(Psalms 127:3-5) Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward. {4} Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. {5} Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them…***

***[Ephesians 4:1-3] walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.***

***(Proverbs 26:20) Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.***

***(Proverbs 26:17) He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own Is like one who takes a dog by the ears.***

***(Proverbs 16:28) A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.***

**CLEAVE TO SPOUSE *"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24b).***

***(Ephesians 5:22-28) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. {23} For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. {24} Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. {25} Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, {26} that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, {27} that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. {28} So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.***

***(Proverbs 14:1) The wise woman builds her house, But the foolish pulls it down with her hands.***

**Live & Love In the Lord**

***(Romans 12:18) If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.***

***"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews. 12:14).***

A good example is Ruth. ***(Ruth 1:8) And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each to her mother's house. The LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me… (Ruth 1:14-18) Then they lifted up their voices and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. {15} And she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." {16} But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God. {17} Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me." {18} When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she stopped speaking to her.***

A **bad** example: ***(Genesis 26:34-35) When Esau was forty years old, he took as wives Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. {35} And they were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah… (Genesis 27:46) And Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth; if Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of Heth, like these who are the daughters of the land, what good will my life be to me?"***

One of the best ways to show respect is to listen to them. ***(Exodus 18:13-14; 24) And so it was, on the next day, that Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood before Moses from morning until evening. {14} So when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit, and all the people stand before you from morning until evening?"... {24} So Moses heeded the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said.***

**A Time For meddling**

The only time a parent can & should meddle in the affairs of their children is ***before*** they are married, not after the fact. ***(2 Corinthians 6:14) Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?***

There will always be exceptions to the rule: ***(1 Peter 3:1-2) Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, {2} when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear.***

There may come a time when the Lord requires you to become an Out-Law ***. [1 Corinthians 5:9-13] I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. 11But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. 12For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? 13God judges******£*** ***those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”***

***[1 Peter 4:3-4] For we have spent enough of our past*** ***£******lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.***

***[1 Peter 4:14-19] If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. 15But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. 16Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. 17For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner? 19Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good***.