



**“A well-disciplined, well-ordered family exerts a more powerful influence in favor of Christianity than all the sermons that can be preached” (ST December 11, 1901, par. 9).**

**The Wedding Chair - Have a seat!** After I performed a wedding for the Kenyan 🇰🇪 Kisii people the men counseled the groom 👤 and the women the bride 👤 in all matters matrimony as they each sat on a small wooden chair 🪑. With his chair the groom could now join the village council! So, *pull up a chair and let's talk* 💖!

## CREATION

**Marriage is the mirror of God's love to the world!**

**422B1**

🌍 **Creation:** Separation → 👤 Adam ↔ 👤 Eve → “one flesh”

**Ephesians 5:31** “For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: **but I speak concerning Christ and the church.**”

- 22-24 👤 submits to 👤 → husband = head **as Christ** = head of church (**Savior of the body**)
- 25 👤 💖 👤 “**just as Christ** also loved the church **and gave Himself for her!**” Submission Assumption:  
to a Christ-like man!
- 26 **Purpose:** sanctification · cleansing · washing of water by the word
- 27 **Reason:** “present her to Himself a glorious church, no spot/wrinkle, but holy, no blemish
- 29 no hate; nourish + cherish, “**just as the Lord does the church**” Young lady after presentation of Eph 5:
- 31-33 Creation Appeal: 👤 **love** ↔ **respect** 👤 👤 Where can I find such a man?!

👤 “God Himself gave Adam a companion. He provided “an help meet for him”—a helper corresponding to him—one who was fitted to be his companion, and who could be one with him in love and sympathy. Eve was created from a rib taken from the side of Adam, signifying that she was not to control him as the head, nor to be trampled under his feet as an inferior, but to stand by his side as an equal, to be loved and protected by him. A part of man, bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh, she was his second self, showing the close union and the affectionate attachment that should exist in this relation” (PP 46.2).

## 🔴 The Blame Game

**LORD God to Adam: “Where are you?!” (Gen 3:9)**

👤 **Adam:** Gen 3:12 “The woman **You gave to be with me**” → 👤 **Eve:** Gen 3:13 “The serpent” 🐍

👤 “He referred them to the blessed days of Eden, when God pronounced all things “very good.” Then marriage and the Sabbath had their origin, twin institutions for the glory of God in the benefit of humanity. Then, as the Creator joined the hands of the holy pair in wedlock, saying, A man shall “leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one” (Gen 2:24), He enunciated the law of marriage for all the children of Adam to the close of time. **That which the Eternal Father Himself had pronounced good was the law of highest blessing and development for man**” (MB 63). ... “Like every other one of God's good gifts entrusted to the keeping of humanity, marriage has been perverted by sin; but it is the purpose of the gospel to restore its purity and beauty. In both the Old and the New Testament the marriage relation is employed to represent the tender and sacred union that exists between Christ and His people, the redeemed ones whom He has purchased at the cost of Calvary.” **“The grace of Christ, and this alone, can make this institution what God designed it should be—an agent for the blessing and uplifting of humanity. And thus the families of earth, in their unity and peace and love, may represent the family of heaven” (MB 65).** “Now, as in Christ's day, the condition of society presents a sad comment upon heaven's ideal of this sacred relation. Yet even for those who have found bitterness and disappointment where they had hoped for companionship and joy, the gospel of Christ offers a solace. The patience and gentleness which His Spirit can impart will sweeten the bitter lot. The heart in which Christ dwells will be so filled, so satisfied, with His love that it will not be consumed with longing to attract sympathy and attention to itself. And through the surrender of the soul to God, His wisdom can accomplish what human wisdom fails to do. Through the revelation of His grace, hearts that were once indifferent or estranged may be united in bonds that are firmer and more enduring than those of earth—the golden bonds of a love that will bear the test of trial” (MB 65).

“God celebrated the first marriage. Thus the institution has for its originator the Creator of the universe. “Marriage is honorable” (Hebrews 13:4); it was one of the first gifts of God to man, and it is one of the two institutions that, after the Fall, Adam brought with him beyond the gates of Paradise. **When the divine principles are recognized and obeyed in this relation, marriage is a blessing;** it guards the purity and happiness of the race, it provides for man's social needs, it elevates the physical, the intellectual, and the moral nature” (PP 46.3).

**“The warfare against self is the greatest battle that was ever fought” (SC 43).**

#2: 🧠 → 🧠 (Ex 20:5) · #4: 🧠 (Ex 20:10) · #5: 🧠 & 🧠 (Ex 20:12) · #7: ❤️ · #10: 🧠 (Ex 20:17; 🧠 2Cor 10:5!)

## CHILDREN

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Prov 22:6)

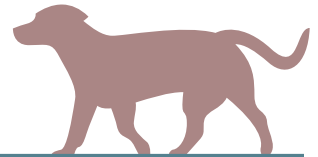
**Train** חָנַךְ *khanakh*: “to train up; to dedicate” (BDB 335; HALOT 334) a house (Deut 20:5; 1 Kgs 8:63; 2 Chr 7:5). Noun חֲנֻכָּה *khanukhah* 🧠: “dedication; consecration” esp. of altars (Num 7:10; 2 Chr 7:9), the temple (Ps 30:1), town walls (Neh 12:27). Adj. חָנִיךְ *khanikh*: “trained, tried, experienced” men (BDB 335; Gen 14:14). Aram. “to train,” Eth. “to initiate,” Arab. “to learn; to make experienced”. Also rubbing a newborn’s palate 🍌 with date juice or olive oil 🍌 to motivate child to suck, but Arabic meaning until nearly a millennium later. [NET Bible note adaptation]

**Child** נָעַר *na’ar, omwaana, mtoto*, but also “youth” or broad range of ages (BDB 654-55; HALOT 707): infant (Ex 2:6), weaned child (1 Sam 1:24), young child (Jer 1:6), lad (Gen 22:12), adolescent (Gen 37:2), or young man of marriageable age (Gen 34:19) = formative years. Talmud: < age 25.

**Go** עַל־פִּי דַרְכּוֹ *‘al pi darko*: “according to his way”; NEB “Start a boy on the right road.” “The way he should go” = a standard of life to be attained: the way of the wise/righteousness vs the way of the fool. One takes training, the other does not. Rablag’s corollary: “Train a child according to his evil inclinations (let him have his will) and he will continue in his evil way throughout life” (J. H. Greenstone, Proverbs, 234).

Ephesians 6:4 🧠 → 🧠: ① provocation ② nurture ③ admonition of the Lord

Run-Away Boys



## LOST. CHILDREN.

Hope.

**Jeremiah 31:15** “Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not. 16 Thus saith the LORD; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. 17 And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border.”

⚡ **Problem. Solution.** “In the vision given me June 12, 1868, I was shown the danger of the people of God in looking to Brother and Sister White and thinking that they must come to them with their burdens and seek counsel of them. This ought not so to be. **They are invited by their compassionate, loving Saviour to come unto Him, when weary and heavy-laden, and He will relieve them. In Him they will find rest. In taking their perplexities and trials to Jesus, they will find the promise in regard to them fulfilled. When in their distress they feel the relief which is found alone in Jesus they obtain an experience which is of the highest value to them.** Brother and Sister White are striving for purity of life, striving to bring forth fruit unto holiness; yet they are only erring mortals. Many come to us with the inquiry: Shall I do this? Shall I engage in that enterprise? Or, in regard to dress, Shall I wear this or that article? I answer them: You profess to be disciples of Christ. Study your Bibles. Read carefully and prayerfully the life of our dear Saviour when He dwelt among men upon the earth. Imitate His life, and you will not be found straying from the narrow path. We utterly refuse to be conscience for you. If we tell you just what to do, you will look to us to guide you, instead of **going directly to Jesus for yourselves.** Your experience will be founded in us. You must have an experience for yourselves, which shall be founded in God. Then can you stand amid the perils of the last days and be purified and not consumed by the fire of affliction through which all the saints must pass in order to have the impurities removed from their character preparatory to receiving the finishing touch of immortality” (2T 118.3).

The gospel is a wonderful simplifier of life’s problems. . . .

Consider what will tend most to simplicity, purity, health, and real worth” (MH 363).



## THE TOP TEN

Are you Family?

THE ESSENTIALS OF LIFE

