

Harmony in the Family

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Colossians 3:18-21

- Harmony – “1. agreement; accord; harmonious relations.
2. a consistent, orderly, or pleasing arrangement of parts”
- Col. 3:16 – Harmonized voices are pleasant and aid in teaching and admonishing.
- 1 Cor. 12:20 – Harmony is a greater blessing in human relationships, most especially in the church and the family.
- “But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.”

No Rules? No Harmony!

- Rules must be agreed upon and faithfully followed – the Bible!
- Col. 3:18; Eph. 5:22 – Wives submit...as is fitting in the Lord.
- Eph. 5:25; Col. 3:19 – Husbands love, give, don't be bitter.
- Eph. 6:1 – Children obey parents (not Isa. 3:12 “As for My people, children are their oppressors, And women rule over them. O My people! Those who lead you cause you to err, And destroy the way of your paths.””)
- Eph. 6:4 – Fathers train children.
- Titus 2:4 – Wives love husbands and children.

Same Rules, Different Roles!

- Mk. 10:5 “But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female”
- Eph. 5:23; 6:4 – Husband's role is not unconditional and is approved only when following Christ's example of love for His church.
- Titus 2:1-8 – Requires respect and conformity to God's rules and roles (Rom. 12:1-2).
- Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:12ff – accepts **God approved** differences and arranges them for the good of the whole.
- 1 Cor. 12:19 “And if they were all one member, where would the body be?”

- *Harmony works best when all the parts are present.*
- *No man can provide a mother's love, nurture and example.*
- *Neither can any woman provide a father's example, leadership and instruction.*
- *God's arrangement of father, mother, children can be mocked, but it cannot be improved upon.*

“Practice Makes Perfect”

- Mat. 19:3-6; Heb. 13:3 – Biblical marriage must be honored and protected!
- 2 Tim. 2:15 – The more knowledge of roles & responsibilities, plus persistent practice, the more pleasing & peaceful the product! (Also 1 Cor. 12:25-26)
- Sour notes cause major problems – Eve (Gen. 3:1-6); Cain (Gen. 4:3-8); Eli's sons (1 Sam. 3:11-14); David's children - Amnon (2 Sam. 13); Absalom (2 Sam. 15-18).
- 2 The. 3:6-12 – “disorderly” means out of step; irregular, deviating from order & rules.

Decision...

- Harmony is beautiful, but exists only when rules are agreed upon and followed.
- Is not when all the notes are the same, **but when they compliment each other & work together.**
- Is at its best when all parts are present and are practiced to proficiency, **but one good lead can make a difference!**

JUST ONE

One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream.
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.

One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul.
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal.

One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.

One step must start each journey.
One word must start each prayer.
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.

One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what's true,
One life can make a difference,
You see, it's up to you!

- ANONYMOUS