

ANDERSON
CHURCH OF CHRIST



Fall Lectureship 2011
September 25th - 29th
“God and the Family”

Sunday: 9:45 AM Bible Class

10:45 AM Worship

6:00 PM Singing

7:00 PM Worship

Monday - Thursday 7:00 PM

SUNDAY: Ken Chapman

Bible Class – “A New Family” – the importance of the family being centered on God from the very start.

AM Worship – “Satan Confronts the Family”

PM Worship – “Why Marriages Fail”

MONDAY: Norm Webb Jr. – “Till Death Do Us Part”

TUESDAY: Bobby Graham – “Except it be for fornication”

WEDNESDAY: Jeb Reaves – Faith and the family

THURSDAY: Jeff May – “The Little House on the Freeway”

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH: 9:45 AM

"A New Family"

KEN CHAPMAN

KEN CHAPMAN



Ken Chapman was born and raised in rural Cullman county, Alabama. During college he met and fell in love with Dedra Keely. They will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary in June 2012. Ken and Dedra have two children: Blake (23) lives in Daytona Beach, Florida where he works for the Daytona Cubs baseball organization. Keely (21) is attending college at UNA in Florence. Ken has preached for the Brundidge, Alabama church (3 years), the Pinson, Alabama church (10 years), the Newman Road church in Joplin, Missouri (9 years) and since 2010 is working with the Helton Drive church in Florence, Alabama.

A New Family Begins...

(The importance of the family being centered on God from the very start)

1. When we start a family we are building something:
 - a. A Home
 - b. Relationships
 - c. Toward Heaven

2. The beginning (the foundation): Genesis 2:24, "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother, and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Then...Genesis 4:1-2.

3. There are two foundations on which we can build our families (and our lives). Jesus spoke of these two possibilities in Matthew 7:24-27.
 - a. The foundation makes all the difference.
 - b. The proper foundation is God's word (hearing and doing, see James 1:18-22).
 - c. Both will face storms. One will stand. One will fall.

4. What a Godly foundation provides:
 - a. A consistent motive for proper conduct (Ephesians 5:22-6:4; Colossians 3:17-25)
 - b. A perfect guide for every family member (Titus 2:1-8; 1 Peter 3:1-7)
 - c. True hope for our families (1 Peter 3:1-2,7; Ephesians 6:1-4)

5. Importance of building a proper foundation early:
 - a. That's when a foundation should be laid.
 - b. So difficult to lay a foundation (or fix it) later on.
 - c. Too often we never get around to it, or it is too late once the storms come.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH: 10:45 AM

**"Satan Confronts
the Family"**

KEN CHAPMAN

Satan Confronts The Family

Some of the snares of the devil in regard to the family

1. God's word makes it clear that we are engaged in warfare against Satan.
2. We must equip ourselves for this battle (Ephesians 6:10-18).
 - a. The lesson of David vs. Goliath.
 - b. Satan is a liar (John 8:44), and he is deceiving the world (Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 4:4).
3. Satan is attacking our families and wants to destroy them because he knows the family is the doorway to our soul. This highlights the importance of strong, godly families.
4. Satan is attacking the very institution of marriage, the foundation of the family. Look at his lies:
 - a. "Living together outside of marriage isn't sin. In fact, it is the better way." (1 Corinthians 6:18)
 - b. "Homosexuality and same-sex marriage is the same as heterosexual marriage." (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Genesis 1:27-28; 2:24)
 - c. "If it doesn't work out, we'll just get a divorce." (Malachi 2:16; Matthew 19:6)
5. Satan is attacking the internal mechanics of the family. Look at his lies:
 - a. "The husband/father doesn't have to be the spiritual leader of the family." (Ephesians 6:4; 5:25-28)
 - b. "The wife doesn't need to submit to or respect her husband." (Ephesians 5:22,33)
 - c. "Children don't need discipline or structure." (Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 13:24; Hebrews 12:9-11)

6. Satan is attacking the intention of God for the Christian home. Look at his lies:
- a. "The home is not a place for teaching and preserving the word of God."
(Deuteronomy 6:6-7)
 - b. "The family should busy itself with the things of the world."
(Matthew 6:33)
 - c. "Individuality is more important than togetherness."
(Genesis 2:24)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH: 7 PM

"Why Marriages Fail"

KEN CHAPMAN

Why Marriages Fail

1. We'll look at this subject from a negative perspective (failure) in an attempt to arrive at a positive result (a happy successful, happy marriage).

2. Define "failure:"
 - a. Obviously divorce is failure. Infidelity that so often is the cause of divorce is failure. But also other divorces that result from partners growing apart.
 - b. Failure would also have to include marriages that simply exist, a husband and wife that are enduring marriage rather than enjoying it. We might label this as nearly divorced.
 - c. We must also count as failures those marriages that are not training grounds for godly children. One of the noblest purposes of marriage is to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. If we do not, then we have failed.

3. Reasons for failure:
 - a. No true commitment (Matthew 19:3-6; Romans 7:2)
We will make it work, we will make it last. Giving up (failure) is not an option.
 - b. Selfishness (Wife: Ephesians 5:22-24; Husband: Ephesians 5:25-28)
One of the greatest enemies of love and commitment is selfishness.
 - c. Misunderstanding of Love and Respect (Ephesians 5:33; 1 Corinthians 13)
Love and respect are commanded by God. We will not truly succeed in our marriages and relationships until we understand God's definition of those requirements.
 - d. Not including God in the relationship (Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12)
In our marriages (as in our salvation), we are not equipped to direct our steps. We must stop listening to the world, stop trying to find our own way and humbly listen to God.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH: 7 PM

"Till Death Do Us Part"

NORM WEBB

NORM WEBB



Norm was born in Wilmington, Ohio, but spent most of his childhood in Tampa, Lakeland and Melbourne, FL. After graduating from Eau Gallie High School in Melbourne, he attended Florida College from 1991-1994, where he met Barbara Jo Britnell. They were married October 1, 1994, and moved to Elgin, IL to work with the Congdon Ave. church of Christ. They labored together for six profitable years with these brethren before moving to Athens, AL in December of 2000 to work with the Corinth church of Christ. In April of 2008, the Corinth church completed a new building on Jones Road and are now identified as the church of Christ on Jones Road. Norm and Barbara Jo worked with this group of brethren for ten and a half years. In June of 2011, Norm stepped away from full-time preaching to serve as Vice-President of Athens

Seeing Marriage from God's Perspective

INTRODUCTION

A. What Happens to Marriages?

1. Survey

a. Is your marriage in a rut? _____ yes _____ no

b. Are you happily married? _____ yes _____ no

2. 4 out of 10 first time marriages are ending in divorce. The divorce rate among all Americans continues to hover around 50%. America is not a country overflowing in marital bliss.

3. God's desire for husbands and wives: Proverbs 5:18-19

4. Do you remember what your relationship was like before you got married? What happened?

a. Jobs, house, children, etc.

b. We become so focused on day-to-day affairs that we neglect the things that keep our marriage thriving and growing.

c. We assume, in the midst of all our busyness with good things, that our marriage will take care of itself.

d. "Through indolence the rafters sag and through slackness the house leaks" (Ecclesiastes 10:18). Our marriages and families will fall apart if not given the right amount of attention.

B. God Created Marriage

1. Genesis 2:18-22

2. Marriage was not invented by culture, or is it an innovation of mankind.

3. God created and design marriage and he knows, better than any counselor or psychologist, how it should work to bring glory to Him and happiness to a man and a woman.

4. If we want successful marriages, than we must see marriage as God sees it.

I. God Sees Marriage as an Enduring Relationship

A. Contrast of Culture and God's Plan

1. Some today are proposing that marriage licenses be made available like driver licenses. Every few years they must be renewed. If things are not working when they come up for renewal, then just don't renew. It saves the mess and cost of divorce.
2. This is fundamentally opposed to what God created.
3. Do you remember your wedding vows? Do you remember how they ended? "Until death do us part."
 - a. That is more than just a traditional phrase. It is a concept found in God's word again, and again.
 - b. Romans 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:39
 - c. Matthew 19:1-12: While men have wrestled with the endurance of marriage for a long time, God's word hasn't changed. Jesus said, "Have you not read..." and then returned to the beginning.
 - d. Malachi 2:13-16: Marriage is seen by God as a lifelong covenant and sees divorce as violent and treacherous, which is why he hates it.

B. Renew the Covenant

1. I suggest that husbands and wives periodically renew their covenant with each other. Tell your spouse that you are determined to remain devoted to that lifelong relationship.
2. This needs to be done, not only on a romantic evening, but also when there is frustration and conflict.
3. Don't ever entertain divorce, in anyway.
4. God intended for this relationship to endure a lifetime. We must, without reservation, commit ourselves to our spouses and to God's design for marriage.

II. God Sees Marriage as an Investment of Self-Less Labor

A. The Disillusioned View

1. A lot of people go into marriage with the mistaken concept that if they find their perfect soul mate, then marriage will be a breeze.
2. When challenges come and conflicts arise they assume that the person they married was the wrong person, so they need to divorce and find the right one – their true soul mate.

B. Marriage Takes Work

1. Do you remember the part of your vows that said, "Love, honor and cherish is sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, for rich or for poor..."
2. The vows we took are a sketch of a lifetime of challenges. Marriage takes work and requires selflessness.

C. His Needs and Her Needs

1. One of the greatest challenges of marriage is understanding and meeting the needs of your spouse. Unfortunately, husbands and wives are terribly mistaken about what their spouse needs.
2. 1 Peter 3:7, "Husbands live with your wives in an understanding way."
 - a. Husband, do you know your wife's greatest needs?
 - b. What is the one question that wives ask their husbands that husbands rarely if ever ask their wives?
 - c. Wives need LOVE (Ephesians 5:25).
 - d. Wives needs husbands who will Listen, Open up, Value them, Emotionally connect.
 - e. Husbands are you working to fulfill these needs of your wife. God intended you to invest this selfless labor in your marriage.
3. Wives, do you understand your husband and know his greatest needs?
 - a. When 400 husbands were asked, "If you were forced to choose between being left alone and unloved in the world or made to feel inadequate and disrespected by everyone, 74% of the men said they would rather be left alone and unloved, than to be disrespected.

- b. Husbands need RESPECT (Ephesians 5:22,33).
 - c. What were the men in Esther's day worried about? (Esther 1:17-20).
 - d. In most cases, when a husband is unhappy in his marriage and dissatisfied with his wife it is because he believes he is not being treated with respect.
 - e. Wives need to express their appreciation for the work he does that supports them financially. She needs to not only follow his lead when decisions are made about the family, but honor his decision.
4. The simple point is that marriage takes selfless work, which requires both spouses to submit to the needs of the other and make sure those are met.

III. God Sees Marriage as a Lifelong Romance

A. An Overlooked Ingredient

- 1. Romance is an indispensable ingredient of a healthy marriage, yet so neglected and underestimated.
- 2. Romance is part of God's marriage plan (Proverbs 5:15-20)
- 3. In the dating relationship, men and women will go to great lengths to woo one another. Then they get married and stop.
- 4. Long after the wedding ceremony is over, husbands and wives must continue to fill up one another's love bank.
- 5. Plan dates at least once a month; don't neglect physical intimacy; plan enjoyable events for each other.

CONCLUSION

A. How is Your Marriage Doing?

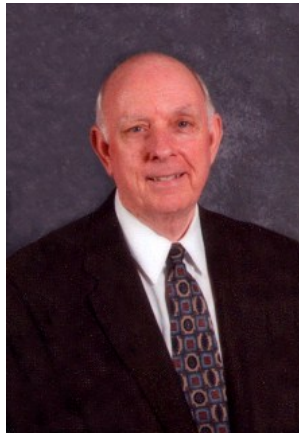
- 1. Some might say, "My marriage is fine." They are happy to stay in their rut.
- 2. Have you asked your spouse how the marriage is doing?
- 3. Have you analyzed your marriage under the microscope of God's word.
- 4. God intended for marriages to not just be free from adultery. He intended for a marriage to be a strong, healthy relationship that brings joy to those in it and glory to His name.
- 5. Your marriage should be a shining light of God's love. It should imitate the sacrificial love of Jesus.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH: 7 PM

**"Except it be for
Fornication"**

BOBBY GRAHAM

BOBBY LEON GRAHAM



Born Aug. 30, 1946 to Mary and Leon Graham, Florence, Alabama; spent most of years growing up under preaching of Curtis Flatt and Franklin T. Puckett; father served as elder at College View for 30 years; Father now at Helton Drive congregation (last 20 yrs.); Mother deceased

Graduated from Coffee High School in 1964; attended Florida College 2 and 1/2 yrs.; graduated from Athens College and finished Master's Degree in Education; has done schoolwork at Athens Bible School for 33 yrs., serving as teacher, assistant principal, and principal; still teaches Bible and conducts elementary chapel;

Began preaching in 1962 while still in high school once per Sunday and increased to twice per Sunday after a few months; preached through college in Florida and Alabama;

Married Karen Ruth Hodge from Akron, Ohio, in November 1967; have three children: Richard; Mary Katherine, married to Darren Winland (preaches in Limestone County, AL), has two children; and Laura Ruth married to Jeremy Paschall (preaches in Cullman, AL); all three are faithful Christians;

Has preached at Somerville Road in Decatur with Granville Tyler, three churches in Limestone County; Richmond, VA (West End); Trinity, AL; Huntsville, AL (Chapman Acres); has written for Gospel Guide, edited by Billy Norris, for 41 yrs.; helped train several young preachers from North Alabama area and Canada for many years; served as an elder in two congregations; have stressed in my own work "mission meetings" in destitute fields, making many trips to New England and Northeastern states and also such work in mountains of VA and KY; twelve preaching trips to Belize; currently works with Old Moulton Road church in Decatur and writes Q & A column in Truth Magazine.

"EXCEPT IT BE FOR FORNICATION"

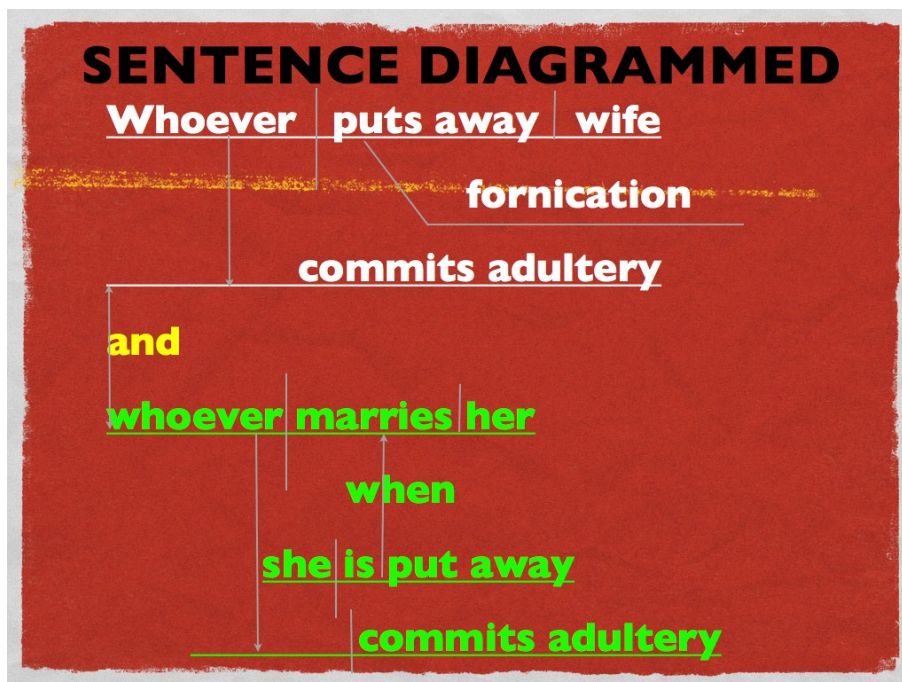
EXCEPT FOR FORNICATION

Mt. 19:9; 5:32

Introduction

1. Marriage is God's gift to the human race for its perpetuation and basic spiritual education.
2. The plan of God for marriage is discerned from the earliest references to it in the Bible:
 - A. Divine in origin, Gen. 2:20
 - B. Permanent in duration, Gen. 2:24
 - C. Pure in design, Gen. 2:25
 - D. Reproductive in purpose, Gen. 1:28
 - E. Orderly in structure, Gen. 3:18
3. The divine structure for marriage better equips it for the purpose that God had in mind:
 - A. Companionship, Gen. 2:18
 - B. Reproduction, training of children, Ge. 1:28
 - C. Prevention of fornication, 1 Cor. 7:2
4. Divorce prevents the fulfilling of these purposes which God desired for marriage.

I. Diagram of the Sentence



II. Exegesis of Mt. 19:9

- A. Whoever does two things (puts away his wife and marries another) commits adultery - unless he does it because of the other party's fornication.
- B. He does not commit adultery if he puts away his sexually unfaithful wife (for this reason) and then marries another woman.
- C. He who marries that put-away woman (the one guilty of fornication) commits adultery.

III. Exegesis of Mt. 5:32

- A. Whoever does one thing (puts away his wife w/o her fornication) causes her to commit adultery (has responsibility toward his wife, assumes her remarriage w/o forn. as cause).
- B. He who put her away (one guilty of fornication) does not cause her to commit adultery (already has).
- C. He who marries her (guilty one) commits adultery.

IV. Meaning of Fornication

- A. All sexual relations outside marriage, 1 Thes. 4:3; Heb. 13:4
- B. Marital-unmarried relations/adultery, 1 Cor. 5:1
- C. Homosexuality/sodomy, Jude 8
- D. Bestiality, Lev. 20:10-21

V. Application to All People

- A. Not just Christians (under covenant, Fuqua, Hailey, Bales), Mt. 28:18-20; Jn. 12:48; Acts 17:30-31
- B. Marriage law for all - if not, then not possible for alien to marry or commit adultery, Gen. 2:24; 1 Cor. 7: 2; 1 Cor. 6:9-11
- C. Not two laws - one for the alien, another for the saint (some laws developmental - Lord's Supper)
- D. Unvarying divine law here, not fluctuating civil law

Conclusion

1. Marriage is a human relationship divinely approved and regulated.
2. Any benefits are dependent on our compliance with divine law.
3. No human has a right to alter a divine appointment - persons eligible, divine controls, exception, etc.
4. This is a matter of reverence toward God and respect for the Scriptures.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH: 7 PM

Faith and the Family

JEB REAVES

JEB REAVES



Jeb Reaves was born in Athens, Alabama to H.B. "Brownie" Reaves and Nancy Clendening Reaves in 1973. He attended Florida College from 1991-1994 spending one year in the Biblical Studies program. He has preached in inner city Atlanta, GA; helped begin a new work in St. Charles, MO; worked 6 years with the church in Saraland, AL, spent 3 years abroad in Chiapas, Mexico, and currently is working with the Westview congregation in Athens, AL. He is married to wife Sheila and has 3 children: Will (14); Sarah (11); and Molly (7).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH: 7 PM

**The Little House on the
Freeway**

JEFF MAY

JEFF MAY



Jeff May has been preaching the gospel full-time since 1988. He is a graduate of Troy State University, where he first planned to work in Television News. Jeff says, "I am still a news reporter. It's just all good news." He has preached for local churches in Alabama and Tennessee. He currently preaches for the Oakland church of Christ in Athens, Alabama. He and his wife, Susan, have two children Bethany and Henderson.

Little House on the Freeway

INTRODUCTION:

A Turn in your Bible please to Dt. 6 and in a moment we will focus our attention there.

B. One of my favorite televisions shows has always been "Little House on the Prairie". I think my blood pressure drops a good bit when I watch it. Slow, easy, simple way of life.

1. Life on a dirt road has always been settling for our nerves ("Dirt Roads" – Paul Harvey).

2. Much to my sorrow, Little House on the Prairie has been replaced by "Little House on the Freeway". Christians live hectic lives. Even at "laid back" Oakland where I preach regularly.

C. This sermon is about what I consider to be one of my most major concerns for Christian's today. I see it as our #1 danger.

D. Here's the problems I see. Some of these are not wrong in and of themselves but they create major problems.

1. **"Affluenza" (Materialism)** – National epidemic and no easy shot for it.

- a. There are a number of homes in America today that have 900 square feet of garage space. That's a little less than the size of most homes in the 1940's and 50's.

- b. Literally, in our disposable society our total yearly waste would fill a convoy of garbage trucks to reach halfway to the moon.

- c. To afford all of this, not only dad but mom too has been taken out of the home. Working many hours that leaves little time for some major things.

2. Recreation – as Paul put it “lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God” (2 Tim. 3:4).

a. In ancient Roman society someone said, *“If we can build arenas in every city across the empire, these Christians will forget about their God.”*

3. Hectic lives

4. Dissatisfaction – In a PBS documentary on Affluenza, Gerald Celente who wrote “Trends 2000” said, *“In our research, we hear the same refrain all the time from people. ‘I have no life. I get up in the morning. Day care / elder care. A twenty to forty minute commute to work. I have to work late. I get home at night. There’s laundry, bills to pay. Jam something into the microwave oven. I’m exhausted. I go to sleep. I wake up. The routine begins again the next day, all over again.’ This is what life has become in America.”*

5. * The most important things are set aside and God’s business, God’s work is left in shambles.**

I. OUR LORD WARNS US TO BE CAREFUL

A. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 – Is that not us? Materially living better than we could have ever dreamed – but beware lest you forget God.

B. Matthew 13:7,12 – My fear is that most of us are “thorny Christians”. The word is being “choked” by care and riches.

C. Luke 12:13-21 – Not rich toward God

D. Haggai 1:2-7 – God’s house lying in ruins.

E. Matthew 6:33 – Seek first the kingdom of God!

II. A FEW CRUCIAL THINGS EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE DOING

A. Build a deep relationship with God through prayer and study of the word.

1. *“I think God is crying out and shouting to us, ‘Don’t just do something, stand there! Enter into a love relationship with Me. Get to know Me. Adjust your life to Me. Let me love you and reveal Myself to you as I work through you.’ A time will come when the **doing** will be called for, but we cannot skip the relationship. The relationship with God must come first” (Henry Blackaby).*

- a. Isn't this one of the points of Jesus' interaction with Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)?
 - b. A deep relationship with God is not always about "doing" more. It's about "being with" Him. Balance.
 - c. Jesus didn't want Martha to be so caught up in kitchen service *for* Him that she missed out on the joy of living room intimacy *with* Him.
2. *Prayer* – relationships are always built by communicating. That's what prayer is. Talking with God.
- a. I'm so impressed with the way Jesus prioritized that.
 - b. Someone once said that Jesus went from place of prayer to place of prayer with miracles and teaching in between.
 - c. Mark 1:35-38 – Got up early. Prioritized it. Came before doing.
 - d. Jesus guarded certain things in His life. He didn't get "beeped" out of the Last Supper.
 - e. And prayer can be done throughout the day – "Arrow prayers"
3. *Study of the word of God* - this is where God talks to you. "*Searching the scriptures daily*" (Acts 17:11).
4. I wish I could stress that this is what we are missing in our lives and the source of so many of our problems. We are not talking to God and listening to God on a daily basis.
- a. It focuses you on who you are and who you are to be and helps you through the hectic nature of the day!! Trust me.
 - b. "*I just don't have time.*" – 30 minutes before day begins, 15?, 10? 5? Even five minutes can have powerful results.

B. Develop you a plan for personal spiritual growth – in training

- 1. Jesus said, "*Every disciple who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher*" (Lk. 6:40).

2. Put yourself in training. Discipline (1 Cor. 9:24-27).

C. Keep someone in mind to lead to Christ - keep one person in mind to try to lead to Christ. You don't have to do the teaching. Invite.

D. Develop a great relationship with your family (Eph. 6:4).

1. I'm gonna preach to the preacher on this one and you can sit in. Sometimes we can be doing some good things for God but it can get out of balance and cause devastating effects.

2. Illustration: Preacher who was trying win the whole community every night knocking on doors. Many nights his wife said, "*Are you going to be gone again tonight?*" He wanted to say, "*Woman, I am God's man in this place. If I don't do this, it's not going to get done.*" More doors knocked on, only to return to the hurt look on his wife's face.

a. Then the day came when she asked him to sit down in the kitchen and said, "*Honey, I just want to tell you I am never going to ask you again, 'Are you goin' to be gone tonight?' I've been thinking about this, and the fact is, you are the priest in this family and one day you are going to have to stand and give account of how you lead us. If you believe God wants you to lead us by being gone all the time, then I am not going to argue with you. This is all in your lap now. You are responsible.*"

3. That turned him completely. He prioritized. 1) I have responsibility to God 2) I am a partner with responsibility to my wife 3) I am a parent to my kids 4) I am a preacher with responsibility to the congregation.

a. Listen to how committed and ruthless he became (pg. 108, Prayer the Great Adventure, David Jeremiah).

4. Failure to do that can be disastrous (pg. 109, Boy and Treehouse).

E. Time for edifying and building up other Christians.

a. Time to teach a class – Ability but no availability. Ex. Timothy

b. Hospitality – Lady @ large church. How do you stay close? House to house. Great big houses but can't find time to use them to build up other Christians.

c. *"Is it time for you to dwell in your paneled houses while my house lies in ruins?"*

III. SOLVING THE PROBLEM

A. Be alarmed about it

1. We'll never fix anything that doesn't bother us.
2. Burying God underneath all the rubble of our lives ought to bother us. It did Nehemiah (Neh. 1:1-4). And he set out to fix that problem.

B. Be intentional and deliberate in changing things.

1. "Dear Ann Landers" didn't always give sound Biblical advice but listen (pg. 101, 102, Prayer the Great Adventure, David Jeremiah).
2. That's called "downsizing". "Simplicity". That may be exactly what more of us need to do. The greeks called it "**the middle way**" – **somewhere between depravation and luxury** (Proverbs 30:7-9).
3. Can I let you hear a couple of responses to Mr. Class of 1973 (Pg. 116,117. Prayer the Great Adventure, David Jeremiah)

C. Redeem the time.

1. God's will for our lives is to be #1 (Mt. 6:10-11).
2. How is God's will done in heaven? Angels don't say:
 - a. I know that's important but I'd rather do it tomorrow.
 - b. I think Gabriel is more suited for that than I am.
 - c. Instead, they do His will **immediately, unreservedly, unconditionally and joyfully**.
3. That last one: joyfully. The reason more people are not happy is because they have one agenda for their lives and God has another. You will never be fulfilled until you are being and doing what God created you to be and do.

4. You'll have to redeem time (Eph. 5:15-17; Eccl. 8:5).

a. "The Big Rocks"

D. Contentment (Prov. 15:16)

1. Illustration: Mr. Razzie Robinson (Died at 95 – born in 1913). Lived on an old rough hill farm in North Limestone Co. between Elkmont and Veto. **Simple life but a few things, the right things were in place.**

a. Results: A legacy of a family very much involved in the work of the Lord. Son who is a preacher. Daughters married to elders and otherwise very devoted.

b. He started with a "Little House on the Prairie" ended up with a little house in a freeway world but never forgot his core values and I'm persuaded will hear, "Well done though good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Mt. 25:21).

c. We better not try to do so much that we fail to do the few things that matter most.

CONCLUSION:

A. III. Chippie The Parakeet

B. Don't let life suck you in, blow you over and steal all the song out of your heart while the house of God lies in ruins.

C. Little House on the Freeway

*For Questions and Comments,
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