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Relationship and Family Matters

John 17:1-3, Proverbs 3:6
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Defining Moments

FAMILY MATTERS

Taking the Offensive
what

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The Power of Fervent Prayer

WHAT

FERVENT PRAYER
RELATIONSHIP
God Values Relationship

• The **Purpose of Creation** was to...*establish* a relationship

• The **Purpose of Covenant** was to...*explain* the terms of relationship

• The **Purpose of Jesus’ Death** was to...*expiate* (*atone/repair*) for the relationship
Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.... (Ge 1:26).

Image – (Hbrw) tselem (Ara.) an image, form, statue:—expression

Expression: a manifestation of an emotion, feeling, etc, without words;

Likeness- (Hbrw) demut

The state of being similar
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• Resemblance indicates primarily a likeness in appearance, nature or character;
• and either a striking one or one which merely serves as a reminder to the beholder:
3 Phases of creative order

a. Man – expression of relationship  
b. Wife – expression of covenant(love)  
c. Family – expression of a father* (like God every father wants to create after his own image)
The results of Mans Fall

- **IDENTITY CRISES**
- Man lack the ability to know who he is (*Identity*) or why he exist (*Purpose*)
• Man has a *distorted* IMAGE of GOD
The Purpose of Jesus’ Coming (expiate (atone/repair) the relationship)

A. Jesus was to introduce the Kingdom

B. Jesus was to re-introduce the Father
   - No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known. (Jn 1:18).
A. Jesus was to be the expression of GOD while demonstrating the similarities of GOD

• Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don’t know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. (Jn 14:8-11).

A. Jesus was to restore man back to GOD his Father

• For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. (Ga 3:26)
CHRIST has the answer to our IDENTITY Crises

• for in Him we live and move and have our being, (Ac 17:28).

•
  o Live (v. zao: ză-O) – to live, be alive – zoe – (zao) to live the garden life
  o Move (κινέωμαι: key-nā-omī) – putting something into motion, to move from one place to another, To disturb, to instigate
  o Being (eimi: a-mee) – to be, to exist, be identical

•
FATHERLESS STATS

• **Confused Identities.**
  Boys who grow up in father-absent homes are more likely that those in father-present homes to have trouble establishing appropriate sex roles and gender identity.

• **Child Abuse.**
  Researchers in Michigan determined that "49 percent of all child abuse cases are committed by single mothers."

• **Sexual Abuse.**
  A study of 156 victims of child sexual abuse found that the majority of the children came from disrupted or single-parent homes; only 31 percent of the children lived with both biological parents. Although stepfamilies make up only about 10 percent of all families, 27 percent of the abused children lived with either a stepfather or the mother's boyfriend.
• **Sexual Activity.**
  • In a study of 700 adolescents, researchers found that "compared to families with two natural parents living in the home, adolescents from single-parent families have been found to engage in greater and earlier sexual activity."
  • 75% of teenage pregnancies are adolescents from single parent homes

• **Suicidal Tendencies.**
  • 63% of suicides are individuals from single parent families
  • *Source: FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin - Investigative Aid*
• **Emotional Distress.**
  - Children living with a never-married mother are more likely to have been treated for emotional problems. More than one half of all youths incarcerated for criminal acts lived in one-parent families when they were children.
  - Source: Children’s Defense Fund

• In 1995, nearly six of 10 children living with mothers only were near the poverty line. About 45 percent of children raised by divorced mothers and 69 percent by never-married mothers lived in or near poverty, which was $13,003 for a family of three in 1998.

• **Drug Abuse**
  - 75% of children/adolescents in chemical dependency hospitals are from single-parent families.
  - Source: Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, GA
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