

# Family Fundamentals

*Getting back to basics  
in a world that has lost its  
biblical family values*

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Study Guide

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# Foreword

(5-6)

## **Bible reading:**

2 Tim. 3:16-17; Deut. 29:29; Ps. 119:24, 130

## **Discussion questions:**

1. What is Pastor Ashbrook's "conviction . . . to have a happy home"? Is he right or wrong? Why? (p. 5, ¶ 2).
2. Why was Pastor Ashbrook's boyhood home a happy home? (p. 5, ¶ 5).
3. Pastor Ashbrook expresses concern about the potential extinction of the American home. What are some societal maladies affecting the home today that indicate that his concern was not misplaced? (p. 6, ¶ 2).

## **Answers and Notes:**

# Chapter One: “Until Death Do Us Part”

(7-15)

## Bible reading:

Genesis 2

## Discussion questions:

1. What does Pastor Ashbrook cite as “one of the devil’s classic lies”? (p. 8, ¶ 3).
2. List the “three God-led steps” that brought the biblical home into existence, and tell why it is important to view these steps as “God-led” (p. 8, ¶ 3-4; p. 9, ¶ 3; p. 10, ¶ 4).
3. Was Adam “the highest of the animals”? Why or why not? (p. 9, ¶ 2).
4. Where does the Bible give us God’s boundaries for human sexuality, and how does it define those boundaries? (p. 11, ¶ 4-5).
5. Who is the third party to every marriage contract, and how does divorce violate our agreement with him? (p. 12, ¶ 1-6).
6. What two points are essential to “look[ing] before you leap” into marriage? (p. 13, ¶ 2; p. 14, ¶ 3).

## Answers and Notes:

## **Chapter Two: “Divine Order In Your Home”**

**(16-22)**

### **Bible reading:**

Genesis 3

### **Discussion questions:**

1. What scriptural fact about the home does Pastor Ashbrook want us to see in this chapter ? (p. 16, ¶ 3).
2. What is the first thing we must learn about this scriptural fact, and how is it supported from Genesis 3? (p. 16, ¶ 5-6; p. 17, ¶ 1-4).
3. What is the second thing we must learn about this scriptural fact, and how is it supported from Genesis 3? (p. 18, ¶ 4-6).
4. What are the three primary New Testament passages on the roles of husband and wife, and how do they describe each role? (p. 19, ¶ 5; p. 20, ¶ 5, 7).

### **Answers and Notes:**

# Chapter Three: “This Business of Submission”

(23-30)

## Bible reading:

Eph. 5:21-24, Col. 3:18, 1 Pet. 3:1-6

## Discussion questions:

1. What four truths about the role of the wife in the home can be learned from Eph. 5:21-24? (p. 23, ¶ 5; p. 24, ¶ 2; p. 24, ¶ 4-5).
2. Why did Pastor Ashbrook start with Eph. 5:21 in his counselling of married couples? (p. 24, ¶ 1).
3. What is *fit* about the role of the wife? (p. 25, ¶ 3-4).
4. Does a certain kind of fear play any role in wifehood? If so, what kind and how so? (p. 26, ¶ 3).
5. Rank the ten directives offered by Pastor Ashbrook for the wife’s practice of submission in terms of importance, and then ask your spouse to rank them. How might communication about differences in your rankings contribute to a healthy marriage? (pp. 27-30).

## Answers and Notes:

# **Chapter Four: “This Business of Loving”**

**(31-38)**

## **Bible reading:**

Eph. 5:25-31, Col. 3:19, 1 Pet. 3:7

## **Discussion questions:**

1. How does Bible love differ from a common misconception that many in the world have about love? (p. 32, ¶ 3).
2. What two patterns of love does Paul give to be followed by a husband in his love for his wife? (p. 32, ¶ 4; p. 33, ¶ 3).
3. How do we know that God takes seriously the way a husband cares for his wife? (p. 35, ¶ 1).
4. What is the enemy of leadership? (p. 35, ¶ 3).
5. Rank the twelve directives offered by Pastor Ashbrook for the husband’s practice of love in terms of importance, and then ask your spouse to rank them. How might communication about differences in your rankings contribute to a healthy marriage? (pp. 35-38).

## **Answers and Notes:**

# Chapter Five: “Isn’t He Sweet!”

(39-47)

## Bible reading:

Psalm 127, Eph. 6:1-3, Lam. 3:26-27

## Discussion questions:

1. What three Bible truths about children does Pastor Ashbrook emphasize? (p. 40, ¶ 6; p. 41, ¶ 2-3).
2. What does the Bible word translated *obey* in Eph. 6:1 mean, and why is that significant to rearing children? (p. 42, ¶ 5-6).
3. What does the Bible word translated *honor* in Eph. 6:2 mean, and why is that significant to rearing children? (p. 43, ¶ 5-6).
4. What does the Bible word translated *yoke* in Lam. 3:27 mean, and why is that significant to rearing children? (p. 44, ¶ 3).
5. What is the scriptural *self-* word, and why is it significant to rearing children? (p. 45, ¶ 4).

## Answers and Notes:

# Chapter Six: “Scriptural Spanking”

(48-57)

## **Bible reading:**

1 Sam. 2:12-34, Hebrews 12

## **Discussion questions:**

1. Why should we view the corporal punishment of our children as our responsibility? (p. 48, ¶ 2).
2. How must we answer a parent who believes that corporal punishment does not work with his child? (p. 50, ¶ 2-3).
3. What is true about the generation that first abandoned the rod in the discipline of children? (p. 50, ¶ 5).
4. List Pastor Ashbrook’s six simple truths about scriptural spanking and a verse reference to go with each (p. 49, ¶ 1; p. 50, ¶ 2; p. 51, ¶ 1; p. 52, ¶ 6; p. 55, ¶ 4; p. 56, ¶ 4).
5. What are the four “Never[s]” of biblical discipline? (p. 57, ¶ 3).

## **Answers and Notes:**

# Chapter Seven: “Attention Fathers!”

(58-64)

## **Bible reading:**

Deuteronomy 6

## **Discussion questions:**

1. What are the traits of discipline that provoke children to wrath? (p. 58, ¶ 5).
2. What are the six traits of good discipline? (p. 59, ¶ 1, 3, 4; p. 60, ¶ 2, 3; p. 61, ¶ 1).
3. Who in the home is especially responsible for executing good discipline? (p. 61, ¶ 3).
4. What two ideas does the word *nurture* include? (p. 62, ¶ 1).

## **Answers and Notes:**

## Chapter Eight: “The Art of Admonition”

(65-72)

### **Bible reading:**

Proverbs 3

### **Discussion questions:**

1. What are the components of nouthetic counseling developed by Jay Adams? (p. 65, ¶ 4).
2. What assumption should we avoid when dealing with our child’s need for correction? (p. 66, ¶ 2).
3. List Pastor Ashbrook’s six practical suggestions for family worship (p. 68, ¶ 4, 5, 6; p. 69, ¶ 2, 3, 4). Which do you find most important?
4. What does Lev. 19:32 say, and why is it great for children? (p. 71, ¶ 4).
5. Add a character trait to Pastor Ashbrook’s list of 12 that should be emphasized in family worship (pp. 70-71).

### **Answers and Notes:**



