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Principles of Christian Growth

Section Three: The Results of Christian Growth – How does it bless us?

Lesson Four: A godly home is a blessing of growth.

Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 6, Prov. 11:29, 14:11, 21:20, 24:3-4, Eph. 6:1-4, Col. 3:20-21.

Every godly marriage constitutes a godly home, and no home can be godly where its husband-wife relationship is not what the Lord desires it to be. We focused on this fruit of spiritual growth in our last discussion. Many homes are also blessed with children, and godly parent-child relationships are also a wonderful domestic fruit of Christian growth.

Discussion questions:

1. It was God's will that the nation of Israel be filled with godly homes, and He tells them so in Deuteronomy 6 (see v. 2). What must characterize the life of a parent who desires to minister to his children in the home the way the Lord wants him to? (vv. 4-9, 20-25).

2. The wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and righteousness that come only through Christian growth make a home a happy place to be (Prov. 24:3-4). Proverbs describes both a parent's ministry to children (11:21, 13:24, 14:1, 17:6, 19:18, 22:6, 22:15, 29:15-17), and a children's ministry to parents (1:8-9, 10:1, 13:1, 15:20, 17:21, 17:25, 19:26, 20:20, 23:15-16, 23:22, 23:24-26, 27:11, 28:7, 28:24, 30:11, 30:15-17). Look up the verses and jot down some responsibilities of these ministries.

3. The proverbial wisdom of parenting and childhood is summarized by Paul in the Ephesians and Colossians passages above. According to these passages, what role must the Lord play in the parent-child relationship?