

not read regularly. While some regard this neglect of family altar as a sign of enlikement. A calm thinker will agree that, that is what we need to rid our Country of graph and of greed, of the worship of fine houses, big land, high office, and grand social fanciton. We need to stop and pray in the home.

The enter mission society of Pittsburg, Pa. ask a question over a period of 5 years and of the many who have been asked, only the exception was found to be accustom to the family altar.

The force of home worship is a molding influence that cannot be exaggerated, the regular reading of a Bible, the singing of hymns, and pray produced lasting results.

John G. Patton, missionary to the Southsea Island, said, my fathers prayers impressed me, he poured out his whole soul for hethexns of the world, the entire family felt as if we were in the present of the living saviour. Those prayers were answered as were many others. He said, I remember the worse women in the city, pause beneath our window and heard my father pray, she said, I felt, that I was a burden on that good man's heart, and I knew that God would not disappoint him. That thought kept me out of hell, and at last led me to the Saviour.

In South Africa, Andrew Murray, reared a family of 11 children. Five of these six sons, became ministers, five of the daughters of which four were married to ministers, 23 of this man's grandson's, became ministers. We wonder what the explanation must be and we find it in the Family Altar, were they were prayed for, that God might take them and use them as his servants.

Ruskin, said, my mother, led me through the Bible from Genesis to Rel. about once a year.

Family Altar helps to build a church. Thomas Boston a scotch preacher, was called to a congregation in the slums, services were poorly attended, so he resolve to bring into the homes, Christ. For 30 years night after night he went into the family circle, taught them how to read the Bible, and taught them how to pray, the church was revised.

Richard Baxter, at the age of 26, went to a small church, he stayed there for 19 years, and the place was transforend as he set out to established in the homes, a family worship.

S.S. Norfolk - May 3, 1953

"Christ is the Head of this Home"

Luke 19:5 & 6

ans. 6:9.

Intro.

Riding down Ballentine Blvd. I saw those words on a door-step of a house, naturally a lot of things would cross ones mind, first, you would say is that person boosting. They seem to be bragging about it. Could not one live, and reveal this truth.

Some wouldn't like that sign. Their lives do not measure up to that standard or they would not like for friends to know that they would think about making Christ the head of their home. This question is worth considring today.

How does one go about making Christ the head of the home, who is responsible for this? What are the reasons, why some wouldn't want Christ the head of the home?

#### I. He must be Saviour.

In order for this motto to be a realaity, Christ must dwell in the hearts of the individuals of that home. The mother and father must first turn to Christ, and repent of their sin. Then you may talk and plan with Christ, about his being the head of the home. Christ can never live in a home, if he does not live in the heart.

Jesus saw an unconverted man and he said, to Zackeaus, I must abide at tyour house, it was only for one day but we know that the home was different, it was a happy day when Jesus came into the home of Zackeaus, the Lord would soon go on His way to another place, still he abode in the heart and home of Zackeaus.

The illustration of a pastor, to a home that was not Christian their was a new baby, he said, I have come to see the baby. Think of all possibilities of this child. After a talk, he said, I would like to pray for the baby, that God will help you rear him, train him, and educate him, she said, that would be fine. Then shall I pray, that he will be a christian man, and she said, of course, but how will he be a christian, if his mother and father aren't christian, you are not a christian yourself, and you can't teach him, how to trust Jesus,

I had better pray for you, and she said, yes, I couldn't teach him if I'm not right myself, so you had better pray for me to. Then he turned to the father, and said, shall I pray for you? You cannot have Christ as the head of this home, unless he is in your heart. He said, I notice, a motto on the wall about Christ, the head of this home, the unseen guest at each meal, the silent listener to every conversation. "Oh, he said, I saw the motto, and I thought it was pretty, and I brought it for my wife, I see how right you are and you can pray for me to, you had better ask the Lord, to forgive my sins, and so you know, it was a wonderful time of prayer, following which father and mother, each were willing to make Christ supreme.

No home is every much of a home, until Jesus is Saviour in the hearts of the father and mother. There should be no secret about it. But we should be willing.

## II. Love must abide in the home.

Were Christ is the head, love must be supreme, a home is miserable and unhappy where love is absent I Cor. 10:31 "Whether therefore, ye eat or drink, or whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God".

A. Husbands love your wives. Eph. 5:22-33 explains the attitude of the husband toward the wife. God demands right much of the husband, he intends that the man should provide for his family, he ought to have deep concern for his wife.

Men often do not understand their wives very well. Perhaps he thought he did, until he was married. Of course, women are not like men.

Col. 3:19 also states that the husband must love his wife,

B. The wife love. The wife has many duties in the house, meals, beds to make, floors to sweep, hundred of duties, of course, hard girl could do these things, but home cannot do just right, without a mother, all of the furniture brought on the installment plan and yet home is different, Pro. 10:10-31.

## C. Love for children.

Children should come into homes that will love them. That As we recall perhaps the first words that a child learns are familiar ones, Daddy and Mother, therefore, they should be loved. They should be prayed for, it should be a privilege to dress them, answer their questions. God intended little children to be loved, of course, very often, they must be punished for their wrong doings.

They should be loved to such an extent, that they are given to God for service. This means that Christ is the head of the home and that we are willing for our children to serve him. Children must be reared under the influence of complete dedication to Christ.

## III. Given to hospitality.

This is an important mark of christian home as the impression of a home in a community, can not be felt, unless the doors are open. So have people in your home, it is good to invite guest, children with a father and mother, who open their home are proud, they are glad that they came bring their friends home. Many Christian parents tell their children that they cannot do thus, and so, but do not make their home of haven of happy fellowship. Have the young people as guest, let them have parties and games, songs and refreshments. Join in their conversation. Have some equipment around the house to entertain.

II Kings 4:8-17 a story of the rewards of such a home. Elisaha was a lonely man, and this home was open to him, and he had opportunity to minister here in a spiritual way, as a man of God, he was invited in, to have dinner, to spend the night, and what a blessing it was to the children, to listen as Elisaha told of great revivals, wonderful conversion, answer to pray, and great sermons. A Christian home that is open to missionary and ministers, will be blessed.

## IV. The family altar.

A family altar today is a curiosity. A few years ago a census was taken of 150 typical congregation of the Lutheran Church, this denomination is supposed to be very forward, in the manner of family altars. It was from American churches and foreign language groups, old established churches, a question asked, was, Do you have family devotion in your home? Of the thousand reply, 60% was admitted that the Bible was

There are many reasons why you ought to have this in your home.

1. Enrich the relation between husband and wife.
2. It will minimize misunderstanding and troubles.
3. It will stifle the selfishness in us.
4. It will emphasis the Christian way to children.
5. Prayer will guide us through the day and enable us to understand the adversities of life.
6. It will strengthen the work of the Church.
7. It is a foretaste of the heavenly land.

It is a tragic day when the modern home, does not use this sustain power. Christians show little interest.

Why do people not have interest, one of the first reasons, is this, we have no time, and all can gather for this purpose. We are dominated by rushing people, everybody in a scramble to get away and then as they return in the evening, some are leaving again. Under this handicap, it is necessary to make a place, it would be good, to have a time. Lord Roberts of Great Britain, said, we have had family prayers for 55 years, our chief reason for ~~his~~ worship is that they bring the household together, that nothing else can.

Mrs. Compton, the American mother for 1939, told over N. B. C. we solved the problem by rising a few minutes earlier to begin the day with prayer. It is a bond of fellowship, that can not separate us.

We do not need to apologize for prayer, when visitors come into our home. Henry Clay was forced to spend a night in log cabin in Ken. The father in the house was a little disturb and finally acknowledged that it was his custom to conduct family prayer. After the man had finished, Clay said, My dear sir, never again fell the hesitation in the discharge to your duty to God, on account of ~~the~~ presence of man. Remember of every man of sense will respect, the individual that is not ashamed to acknowledge his dependence upon his maker.

<sup>Couples -</sup>  
Many Young People hesitate to establish their family altar, they feel inferior, but ~~et not~~ husband or wife, insist that the cause of family prayer neglected doing their ~~entire~~ previous life, that it is too late, it should be started.

Christ is to be the head of the house and if he is, then we must seek through Family Altar and love and excepting him as Saviour fulfill this truth.

*Atom - Testing grounds 2 hours -*

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