



# What Do We Believe?

## Lesson 38

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## Lesson 38: Christianity Family: Fulfilling God's Purpose

### Scriptures:

Genesis 1:26-31; 2:18-24; 4:1, 2; Exodus 20:12; Psalm 101:1, 2; 103:13; 107:41; Proverbs 20:7; 22:6; 24:1-4; 31:10-31; Isaiah 38:19; Matthew 15:1-6; II Corinthians 12:14; Ephesians 5:21ff; 6:1-4

### Lesson Goals:

To guide the learner to understand the roles of family members  
To guide the learner to understand the responsibilities of family members  
To guide the learner to understand that the family is a unit, working together.

### Scripture Memory:

**By wisdom a house is built, And by understanding it is established. Proverbs 24:3**

### The Lesson:

Have you ever looked at the inside of an engine? Sometimes automobile manufacturers make engines that are cut in half so that you can see all the parts. You can see the way fuel is sprayed into cylinders and ignited. Then the pistons are forced to move up and down in the cylinders to create power that ultimately makes the crank shaft turn, which then makes the wheels move. An engine will not work if it is only cylinders or only a crank shaft. Each part has its own task. Each part has to do its job or the engine will not move the car forward or backward.

A family is like that. Families should be a unit. Each family member has a job to do. God has assigned those jobs. It should be understood that it is everyone's job to see that the family works well together. That means that everyone looks out for everyone else and tries their best to be a helper to other family members.

In the beginning, Adam couldn't do everything alone and needed someone to be a special friend and helper with him. God created Eve to be that very special person. We discover through the rest of the Bible that husbands and fathers, like Adam, are the primary person responsible for the family. They are to see that everyone does well and that everyone is what God wants them to be. Husbands are to love their wives with self-sacrificial love, like Jesus loves those who trust Him as Savior. Jesus loved all of us so much that He died for us. So, husbands should love their wives so much that they are willing to sacrifice anything for their welfare.

Wives and mothers are responsible to love their husbands enough that they give themselves to their husbands in full support of what the husband needs. Ephesians, chapter five, says that wives are to give themselves to their husbands like we are all to give ourselves to our Lord Jesus. Like husbands, wives are to be willing to sacrifice anything for the welfare of their husbands.

Parents are totally responsible for their children. Both fathers and mothers are to do anything necessary to see that their children have good lives. The Bible often speaks of God as our Heavenly Father. God is the perfect example of what a parent should be. By being good parents, mothers and fathers honor God.

Children are to respect their parents. The fifth of the Ten Commandments tells us that we are to respect our parents. Paul points out in Ephesians 6:2, that this is the first commandment with a promise, which to Paul meant that it was very important.

Someone who is honored or respected is a person with a good name. Children should want to keep that kind of respect for all family members. It should be the goal of all children to respect the family name. The word honor even carries the idea of obedience. Children are expected, according to Ephesians 6:1

to do what their parents tell them to do. That often means pitching in with jobs that must be done around home.

So, based on the Bible, everyone in the family works hard to be helpers, supporters, and encouragers who make sure that it is a successful home. Doing that, we fulfill God's purpose.

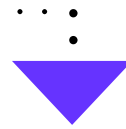
### Life Application:

If you have lived for very long, you have come to realize that many families are not perfect. In fact, some families are pretty messed up. But, just as God has a plan for each of us individually, He put the family together with certain desires for it. The chief way to fulfill God's purpose of helping, supporting, and encouraging our family members is to enter into a saving relationship with God. You may be asking, "How do I do that?" First, you need to understand how God sees you. You are a sinner; you have sinned. Romans 3:23 tells us that all of us have sinned; we haven't measured up to God's glory. That sin deserves a death sentence. Instead of the death sentence we deserve, God offers life - eternal life. (Romans 6:23) The next step is to stop trying to run your own life; instead, put your confidence and trust in the God who created the family in the first place. Once you do, God sends the Helper, the Holy Spirit, to guide you into all truth. God's not trying to keep secrets from you; He wants you to know how to be the best father, mother, brother, or sister you can be.

When you realize the sacrifice He made for you, then you will understand how a family fits together and should work together. We are undeserving of God's great gift of salvation, but He offered it anyway. You will find yourselves in situations with family members where they don't deserve a second chance. Will you follow Christ's example and give that second chance anyway? And will you follow Christ's example of service (John 13) and lead your family to be all that it can be for Him?



Planning for Lesson 39  
Spiritual Gifts: God's Blessing and  
Human Accountability

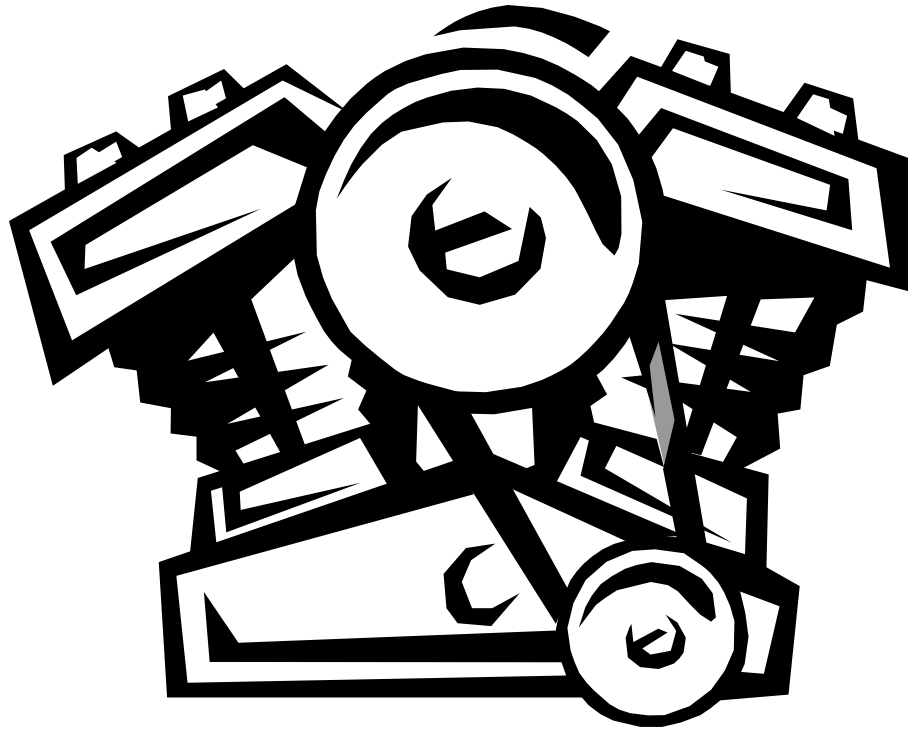


- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Review the verse. Read Proverbs 1:7 and James 1:5. Discuss what wisdom and understanding are and where they come from.
- ◆ Encourage your students to begin their own family tree. Talk about how families should work together to help each other.
- ◆ Read Genesis 1:26-32, 2:18-24, and 4:1-2. Discuss how the first family came about. Discuss any instructions given to them. What were their responsibilities?
- ◆ Sing “God Give Us Christian Homes,” “Lord, I Want to be a Christian,” “Just a Closer Walk With Thee,” “Faith of Our Fathers,” and “Let Others See Jesus in You.”
- ◆ **Dig Deeper:** Read Psalm 101:1-2. Discuss the verses. End the discussion time with prayer. Encourage your students to pray this prayer, committing themselves to live with integrity in their homes.
- ◆ **Dig Deeper Still:** Read Psalm 103:13, Isaiah 38:19, and Ephesians 5:21-6:4. Make a chart with the headings, “Father,” “Mother,” and “Children.” Fill in the chart with what you learn from.



**By wisdom  
a house is built,  
And by understanding  
it is established.**

**Proverbs 24:3**



Have you ever looked at the  
inside of an engine?

An engine will not work if it is  
only cylinders or only a crank  
shaft. Each part has its own  
t\_s\_k. Each part has to do its  
jo\_ or the engine will not move  
the car fo\_w\_r\_d or ba\_kwa\_d.

# Word Search



S	S	E	N	S	T	O	E	T	Q	C	O	R	R	E	C	T
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C	A	I	N	A	N	D	A	B	E	L	S	S	R	E	C	G
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family

unit

jobs

God assigned

mothers

fathers

children

Adam and Eve

Cain and Abel

good parents

honor God

good name

# Word Search



S	S	E	N	S	T	O	E	T	Q	C	O	R	R	E	C	T
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U	D	F	S	T	L	K	C	L	U	F	H	T	I	G	G	A
S	O	I	Q	S	M	A	L	B	N	E	S	S	R	I	D	T

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