

Parenting: Expectants and Newborns

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Week 1 – Key Relationships

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

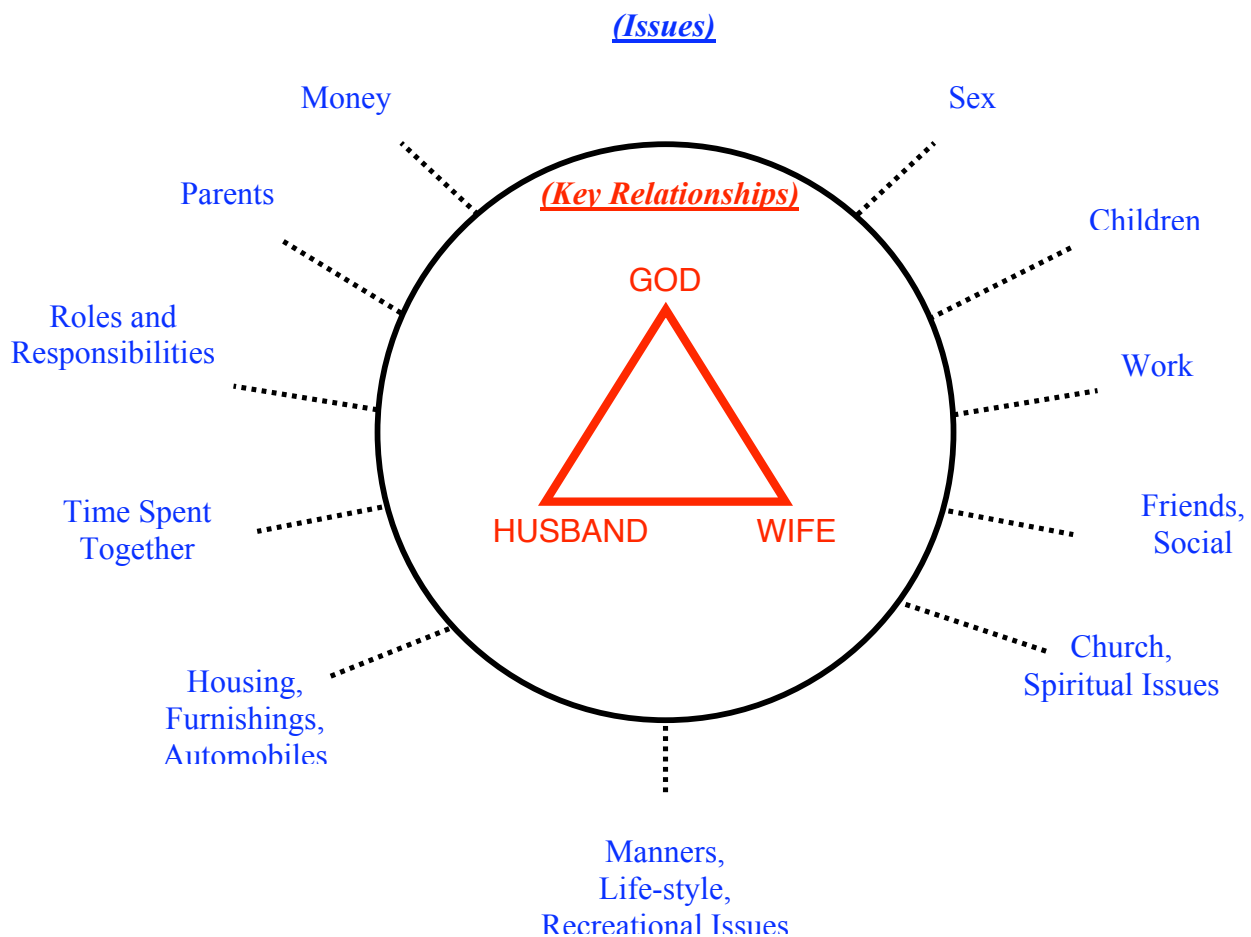
INTRODUCTION

Outline for the session:

1. Why focus on key relationships?
2. Me to God: My personal relationship with God
 - a. Small Group Discussion
 - b. Large Group Q & A
3. Me to Spouse: Husband's relationship with wife
4. Me to Spouse: Wife's relationship with husband
 - a. Small Group Discussion
 - b. Large Group Q & A
5. Wrap Up/Homework

1. Why Focus on Key Relationships?

- **Genesis 1:26-28; 2:24**
- **John 17:20-23**
- **Ephesians 5:22-33**



*Adapted from
Faith Baptist Counseling Ministries
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A Few Reasons Why You Should Focus on Key Relationships?

- God has set priorities for relationships in Scripture.
 - The Great Commandment (Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 22:37-39)
 - The Marriage Relationship (Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 5:22-32; 1 Corinthians 7:3-5)
- God designed the family to be a primary context for gospel transformation between husband and wife as well as parents and children.

2. Me To God: My Personal Relationship with God

See *Key Relationships* chart

Small Group Discussion (see attached discussion questions)

Large Group Q & A

3. Me to Spouse: Husband and Wife Relationship

See *Key Relationships* chart

Small Group Discussion (see attached discussion questions)

Large Group Q & A

4. Wrap Up – Final Thoughts

Homework:

Please take some time to answer the discussion questions in more detail together as a couple. If you are a single parent, consider thinking through these questions with a friend who is a parent who maybe a little further along in their experience of parenting than you.

1. The Priority of Your Relationship with God
2. The Priority of Your Spouse

The Priority of Your Relationship with God

1. What does your relationship with God look like currently?

How does it compare to the example we have in the Psalms?

Describe your daily structure/spiritual disciplines.

2. In what areas do you think you need to grow in, particularly as you approach being a parent and/or are in the midst of parenting?

What will do/how can you tangibly implement growth?

3. Where have you seen or where do you envision possible challenges or changes in your relationship with God in regards to children?

4. How can you prepare yourself for future challenges?

The Priority of Your Spouse

1. What is one thing you are thankful for or really enjoy about your spouse?

2. Reflect on these character qualities God calls us to in relationship with your spouse.

Where are you strong? Where are you weak and in need of growth?

Are there any areas you need to seek repentance in before God and your husband or wife?

3. In general, how do you see your relationship with your spouse changing as you have children?

4. Which of these character qualities as a husband or wife do you think will be a struggle for you to live out? How can you begin to prepare and cultivate good patterns?