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The American Farmer There are 2.2 million farms covering an area of 922 million acres that is over 40% of the total acreage in the US

> 89 million acres of soybeans
> 88 million acres of corn
> 62 million acres of wheat
> 61 million acres of hay crop

Growing crops is a big challenge

Mountain ground or river bottom
Wet or well drained
Steep or flat
Rocks or rock free

There needs to be certain levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and a pH of 5.5-7

For every one farm there are 58 households

2.2 million Farms and 127.59 million Households in the US

While the US grows a major amount of crops it appears that its number one crop is the family

Crop production is advancing

Families are struggling

Can we get the right nutrients in the family to grow the family?

Colossians 3:18-25

Vs 12-17

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love, peace, and the Word of Christ

"Rules for the Christian Household"

Family Maxims

Vs 18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Submit:

Greek military term meaning "to arrange troop divisions in a military fashion under the command of a leader"

In non-military use - a voluntary attitude of cooperating, assuming responsibility, and carrying a burden Submit: to arrange in effective order, to assistant, to cooperate, to assume responsibility Vs 18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Are you walking your family toward the world?

Are you walking your family toward your self-centered actions?

Are you walking toward sin?

Are you walking toward your career?

Are you walking toward a passion for God and His call in your family's life?

FM1 We will each know our position and play it well

Vs 19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 Love is patient and kind It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud...It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs...Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth...It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres...Love never fails

Marriage does not come easy, but when it is happening in an environment saturated with love it will thrive

"Do not be harsh with them"

Husband you may have the ability to strong arm someone to surrender but you will never strong arm someone to their greatest level

Love builds up

Wife, please receive and reciprocate the love

If there is not a receiving and reciprocating of love it becomes very hard to continue to love

FM2 We will love first and continually

Vs 20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Obey to listen intently and follow the instruction

A child that does not learn to obey their parents will struggle to obey any authority including God Parents are you raising your kids or just helping them get taller

You are more than a bank You are more than a cook You are more than taxi cab driver You are not a slave to your kids

You do not take orders from your kids

You are not the drive through at McDonalds

You are a parent!

Parent:

One that begets or brings forth offspring

A person who brings up and cares for another

FM3 Parents parent and kids follow

Vs 21 Fathers, (parents) do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

Embitter - Provoke - Aggravate: poison, make cynical

Discouraged: lack of courage

There needs to be an environment where the children feel and are valued

That the parents have their back

Their parents will listen and really hear them

It is important that the children, I believe in the home or grown and away from the home, know that their parents have time for them

- The parent that
- ≻ fails to see the value of their child
- ► has little to no time for the child
- \triangleright is there one day and not there the next

Will embitter, poison, and make cynical their child and rob them of the courage that is needed to navigate life

Children help your parents parent successfully

Children talk to your parents

Be honest, patient, and pray for

Children your parents have something for you that is powerful

FM4 We will have open and honest communication

Vs 22

Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

Vs 23-25

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.

4:1

Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven. FM5 We will honor God in our work and play

FM1

We will each know our position and play it well FM2 We will love first and continually FM3 Parents parent and kids follow FM4 We will have open and honest communication FM5 We will honor God in our work and play