

T: Leave It to Beaver: *Ward (dad) to sons: "Someday... married, family of own."* Should we talk like that?

PRAYER

SC Vision: a Christocentric-fatherly-bent. Many families falling apart from lack of leadership: fathers!

FF: "satan attacks family." True, **BUT** the Crafty one also attacks the church by making 'family' the focus.

satan goal: glory-exchange [Ro1.22-23](#) family + religion = **mormon** ≠ Christianity: **Jesus is central!**

¿Where do singles fit into a "family-based religion"? "They're *subpar*, don't matter, church-extras."

Not according to (single-) Jesus. Being single can be a blessing, advantages: [1Co7.32-35](#)

JC redefines Family: **OC**-*procreation* grew *nation* of Israel; **NC**-*re-creation* grows **children** of Israel

[Mt12.46-50,19.29](#) shift religious-understanding [Lk11.27-28](#) "rather...those who hear & obey" **Radical!**

¿How do we become part of Jesus' family? **FAITH!** [Ga3.7-14](#)

▶ ¿*Singles, think:* Would we even be here w/o the flexibility, fervor & fire of a single-man named Paul?

Paul & Jesus both speak so *counter-culturally*: [Mt19.12,1Co7.8,7](#) "let he who can, receive it"

Don't mis-hear me: Children & family are great blessings (hence 7 kids), BUT these relations are fleeting, pointers to a far-surpassing, eternal relational glory beyond all we can think or imagine!

to singles & the barren: God holds out a better blessing than legacy, children, family: [Is56.3-5](#)

¿Do you know the context of this passage? Coming Messiah, a Eunuch: [Is53.10](#)

a single-Man **w/offspring!** Husband of the Church, our Father, our Brother

New Covenant Family: new wine-skin; old ways are parables, metaphors, pointers: [Is54.1-5](#)

▶ Lisa/me: **siblings**, not spouses; **NOT less in-love**, truly **IN Him who is Love:** Jesus! all His saints: family!

Singles, How Now Shall We Live?

1. Honor mother, father, & Father: 25+? grow up, move out, serve the King & His Kingdom [parents (moms): over-sheltering & under-raising is more an issue of your bondage to being needed, than their issue of needing you; RAISE adults, not terminal-teenagers]
- ▶ Young brothers, there is not a widow in our body who should ever have to pay for lawn care.
2. single = free & flexible: Answer the radical call of Kingdom child-rearing LISTEN to single-Paul:
 - young men: [1Co4.14-15](#) father hundreds in the kingdom w/o ever going to bed w/a woman; *you don't need a student-ministry to minister to students*
 - young women: [1Th2.7-8](#) may kingdom-kids all over globe (& our nursery) call you 'mother'
3. Singles: Baffle our ever-searching planet by your unshakeable contentment & joy in the surpassing glory of Jesus!