

3 FOLD CORD

Building Lasting Marriages on a Firm Foundation

Weekly Devotional

WEEK FIVE -

One New Family

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24 (NKJV)

The admonition here in our Scripture text involves a deliberate and purposeful separation from our immediate family unit when we become man and wife. God was not implying that we “sever” family ties but that we as a couple are to work out the foundation and structure of our own home to be unique to us as a couple. Without a doubt there will be characteristics carried over from both sides of our families, but it should not be lopsided. We are to find a balance or even totally redefine the way we do married life if need be, to become our own personal and unique family unit. For some this may be difficult because they have never been away from home to experience life without parents near.

Parents will always be parents, but none should be allowed to be the “governor” of our marriage, making decisions, and directing our way of life. Allowing too much or an unbalanced influence in this way, can lead to unhealthy, and even resentful relationships with catastrophic results.

Where there isn't a parent present, this outside influence could also come in the form of a sibling or best friend. Your marriage is “your” marriage. We need to *respect* our family of origin, but *protect* the privacy, and individuality of our marriages. When we do, we will truly be free to become one flesh, and develop into a uniquely new and *healthy* family unit.