

Just think of a single, isolated man who had no human companionship. After he woke up from a deep sleep, his eyes beheld a lovely female human being. The sight was so wonderful that he broke into poetry:-

Gen. 2v23 This is a last bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one will be called woman, because from man this was taken.

We see how earlier he had named all the animals and that they all had pairs. But man had nothing.

However after this, man had the closest thing to him - his wife, made from his own flesh.

Gen 2v24 That is why a man will leave his father and his mother and he must stick to his wife and they must become one flesh.

This means that as one they should stick together as man and wife in an everlasting relationship.

But we see later during the time of Jesus Christ how the Jewish law had been amended to allow divorce for all reasons!

Matt. 19.3 Is it lawful for man to divorce his wife on every ground?

In (*Jesus'*) reply, Did you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female.

For this reason man will leave his father and mother and will stick to his wife and the two became one flesh?

So that they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has put together let no man put apart.

Yoked together is not to be interpreted as a bind, but as support for each other to carry the heavy burden of life.

It means:-

1. Share the load.

2. Pair never separated.

The original purpose then and now was to multiply and fill the earth.

However the Christian objective (being the last command given to us by Jesus) is for us all to preach The Good News to the whole earth if we are truly trying to fulfil Yahweh's Desire of us.

Eccl. 4v12 And if somebody could overpower one alone, two together could make a stand against him. And a threefold cord cannot quickly be torn in two.

This is clearly demonstrating that God will bless the union of man and woman (when based upon Biblical principals – they will cleave together, by overcoming their differences).

Husband:

Eph. 4v32 But become kind to one another, tenderly compassionate, freely forgiving one another just as God also by Christ freely forgave you.

'Pretenda' (for tenderly) is also used for describing the tender and soft very shoots of a very young plant.

The word for "compassionate" is also used for "sympathy".

Forgiving one another just as God forgave us.

Eph. 5.28 Love his wife as he loves his own body.

This is like Jesus loving his bride (future Sons of God) as his own body.

Eph. 5.29 No man hates his own flesh; but he feeds and cherishes it, as the Christ also does the Congregation.

Man should look after their own body (naturally) - clearly they should feel the same about their wives (= one flesh).

The word "cherish" means "heating something slowly and then keeping it warm".

Another example of the same word being used is given below where the bird is keeping her young warm.

Deut. 22v6 In case a birds nest..... and the mother is sitting on the eggs..... you are not to take the mother.

The Bible proposes the hierarchical strata of responsibility throughout reasoning Entities.

It speaks of the children, then wife, then husband, then Jesus, the Yahweh. Thus if the head of the family is trying to follow what Yahweh's Desires of humans then he shall try to adjust his personality and lifestyle so that he while he is equally "one with his wife" then also he is part of the body of Christ.

Eph. 5.30-33 Because we are members of his body.

The Man must take the lead in spiritual matters being the head of the family. Eskimos if there is only one fish left then the man has it because he is to remain strong so that he can go out to collect more food for the family. This can be likened to us; the father has to bring more spiritual food into the family.

Wives:

If the husband follows the above counsel then the actions of the wife should be much easier, because he will respect what she says and take that into consideration whatever she has in her mind. In knowing this then the wife will not feel rejected in the decision making.

1Pet. 3v1 In like manner, you wives, be in subjection to your own husbands.

In like manner, the church is subject to Jesus Christ. Let us have chaste conduct, together with deep respect.

1Pet. 3v3-4 Do not let yourselves be covered in braiding.... gold ornaments. Let us be of a person with incorruptible power rather than the corruptible power of gold.

1Pet. 3v5 So to the holy (*thus separate from the contaminating effects of this sinful world*) women were subject to their husbands, just like Sara.

Archaeologists have found out that in 'UR of the Caldeans' the houses had up to 14-15 rooms within them. This is what Sara being the wife of Abraham had to leave behind to go and live in tents for the rest of her life! She had to leave her 'mod. cons' and follow "'A' (= *The*) Promise" given to her husband by Yahweh.

The area she went to had a famine and they to move to Egypt. But she supported the Will of her husband.

She also had to fend off suitors and support her husband in a tribal war!

This shows that man and wife have to keep close together. The best way is to have good communication.

The whole family must have a common understanding. You could have the example of the Sergeant Major shouting orders from the sideline but that is not very effective within a family!

Communication means the imparting or conveying of knowledge or understanding.

1Pet. 3v7 You husbands, continue dwelling in like manner with them (*wives*) according to knowledge,

Then we should know how each other half reacts in a situation.

Children should be part of that communication.

Communication should draw the family together.

For example if a child finds a worm in the garden, go out with them and show interest. If you do not then, and your disinterest is repeated in many other times then the child will learn not to share life's events later in life. They must get into the habit young to share the life's experiences.

Luke 12v48 But the one who did not understand and so did things deserving of strokes will be beaten with a few. Clearly we must not just be harsh. We must not just be speakers but swift listeners.

If the person has a rebellious nature, then we still must be ready to welcome them, if they see the error of their ways.

The example of this would be the prodigal son.

We will hold each other together with prayer.

Husbands must take the lead with prayer. If we learn to rely on prayer then the children will follow our example.

Eph. 4v26-27 Be wrathful, and yet do not sin, let not the sun set with you in a provoked state, neither allow place for the Devil.

Do not beat your children or wife down mentally, but rather learn to pray about matters together.

If the children have a problem then discuss it with them and then both of you pray.

James 5.16 Therefore openly confess your sins to one another and pray for one another that you may get healed. A righteous man's supplication, when it is at work has much force.

This does not mean that you have two boxes in the corner, for confession.

What God has provided for us, we must acknowledge and be thankful for. Thank God for everything we have on a daily basis and also the problems that we have encountered - perhaps with communication!

1John 5v14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that no matter what is that we ask according to his will, he hears us.

Family problems can go many ways, how do we know what we should do?

Rom 8v26 In like manner the spirit also joins in with help for our weakness, for the problem of what we should pray for as we need to we do not know, but the spirit itself pleads for us with groanings unuttered.

God knows what we want if we only knew Who to turn to.

God manoeuvres events to give us the right answer even if we are uncertain quite what to ask for!

Jeremiah says: -

Jer.10v23 We cannot even direct our steps correctly!

Husbands putting the correct service to God, will then set the example for the rest of his family to follow. This may be preaching the Word of God or regular attendance of True Christian meetings. If just one goes, then perhaps more of the family will follow later.

If however, only the wife is a Christian then the responsibility falls upon her shoulders to behave correctly and spread The Good News to the family. This is true even with one-parent families.

We all must put God first in our lives to fulfil His Desire of us.

We all have different pressures to bear.

It is this family unit that will continue into the New System under Jesus Christ's reign.

This three-fold cord (Yahweh + Jesus + us) will enable us to move on into the new society of The Millennium under Jesus' rulership.