

FIGHT FOR YOUR FAMILY

TALK IT OVER

Biblical Roles in a Raging War

Fight for Your Family - Week 5

Pastor Stacie Wood

October 11-12, 2025

If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit www.saddleback.com/watch.

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the questions provided or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

Scriptures

1 Corinthians 7:32–35, 1 Corinthians 6:19–20, Ephesians 5:23, 25, Genesis 2:18, Ephesians 5:33, Ephesians 6:1–3.

Questions

1. Scripture speaks directly to single Christians in 1 Corinthians 7:32–35. “I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord’s affairs—how he can please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord’s affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband. I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.” What are some ways singles have an advantage over married people when it comes to spending time with and serving the Lord? If you are single, do you feel that remaining single is a gift from the Lord?
2. 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 says, “Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.” What does it mean to be a temple of the Holy Spirit and what are some ways we can honor God with our bodies?

3. Husbands are told to love their wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her in Ephesians 5:23, 25. Share your interpretation of this scripture with the group. How should husbands treat their wives and how should they 'not' treat them? What are some ways Christ demonstrated how to love?
4. Pastor Stacie shared a quote from Josh Howerton, that gives insightful wisdom for husbands to follow. "Not everything that happens in your family is your fault, but it is your responsibility." In what ways can problems in the household be avoided and/or addressed by a Christian husband as the loving head of his family?
5. In Genesis 2:18, "The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."" and in Ephesians 5:33 it says, "...the wife must respect her husband." These two passages lead us to the definition of a Christian wife as a respectful helper for her husband. What does that mean in a marriage?
6. Parents' God-given authority is to be a blessing and protection for their children. Pastor Stacy gave 3 key ways for parents to influence the lives and futures of their children. Discuss how each of the steps below can be used to train and support children's developing character as Christians.
 - Love Jesus.
 - Develop a plan.
 - Reclaim your God-given authority.
7. Ephesians 6:1-3 says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" - which is the first commandment with a promise - "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."" What does it mean for children to obey and honor their parents? Why is doing this so hard? Give examples of children doing this well and examples of rebellion.

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Maturity@saddleback.com

Small Group Action Steps

1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment:
<https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup>
2. Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit <https://saddleback.com/studies> to check out Saddleback's ever-growing library of small group curricula.

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