

FAMILY CONFERENCE - March 28, 2026

Foundations for a Functional Family

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INTRODUCTION

Defining a Dysfunctional Family (Genesis 4:1–8)

The first family recorded in Scripture reminds us that families have struggled since the very beginning. In Genesis 4 we see the tragic story of Cain and Abel, where jealousy, anger, and sin led to the first murder in human history.

This passage reveals what happens when sin is allowed to rule in the heart and relationships are not governed by God.

DEFINITION: - Dysfunctional — not operating normally or properly.

A dysfunctional family is one that is not functioning according to God’s design.

The good news is that Scripture does not merely show us broken families—it also gives us the truth necessary for building functional families.

- Every person in a family influences their family by whether or not the proper foundations are in their lives.
- The key to a functional family is each member having a yielded heart to the truth of God’s Word.
- By giving yourself to the Biblical foundations for a functional home, God can change the atmosphere, the spirit in your relationships, and the direction of your home.
- Resistance to Bible truth will bring about greater dysfunction in the life of your family and more misery in your personal life.

KEY SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 24:3–4

“Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established:
And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

Functional families are not built by accident. They are built through wisdom, understanding, and knowledge—the wisdom that comes from God’s Word.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR A FUNCTIONAL FAMILY

The P_____ of Christ (Proverbs 8:18–21; 32–35)

The P _____ of Fellowship (1 John 1:3)

The P _____ of the Family — To Glorify God (1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Thessalonians 1:11–12)

The P _____ of Selflessness (Luke 15:11–15; Job 1:1–5; Philippians 2:1–8)

The P _____ of Submission (Ephesians 5:17–21; Philippians 2:1–2)
