

“OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES”

By Keith Greer

The other day I was reading some of the bulletins I receive from other parts of the country. In one an article caught my eye. It was titled "How Do You Divorce A Ten- Year- Old?" In the article a ten-year old little girl had written a letter to the judge concerning her parents pending divorce.

"Honorable sir, my mom and dad are getting a divorce ... Please don't let them get a divorce. My momma loves my dad..." Reading the thoughts of this little girl cut me to the heart. Sadly, I well understand her feelings. A broken home is nothing to look forward to!

When God established the marriage relationship, it was for the good of mankind, Genesis 2:18. This would be the place where children would be brought into the world and raised in a loving home. Truly, men have lost sight of the sacredness of the home.

The Bible clearly tells us God's feelings concerning divorce. "For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. Therefore take heed to your spirit that you do not deal treacherously. "{Malachi 2:16} Divorce may be commonplace in our society, but God has not changed His mind!

Coming from a broken home and unfortunately having my own kids in this situation, I can offer some words of warning.

Divorce is pure selfishness- on one party or both. Even when the grounds are for the scriptural reason, as in my mom's case and my own, people are hurt! People have convinced themselves that they are the most important persons to consider.

Adultery surely hurts the person wronged, a deep hurt that leaves scars for a lifetime. Why would one who promised before God and their mate, "till death do us part", inflict such pain? Selfishness is the only answer! How anyone would begin a marriage, by breaking up another one, is beyond my understanding! How can one know the person won't do it again?

Yet, truly the greatest hurt is to the children. How do they choose between mom and dad? What will they think about the parent who is not there? Does it have some effect on them? Yes!! What did they do to deserve such heartache? Do husbands or wives ever consider the burden they place on their children's hearts? Believe me, not a day goes by that I don't ponder the answer to this question.

Divorce is so easy, right? Two people are drifting apart, so just cut the cord and go in separate directions. What about the children? Is it easy for them? Can they just cut the cord from mom or dad so easily? God wanted them raised in a Christian home, with two parents who would love and nurture them.

Divorce and remarriage is the answer, right? This is a human solution to the problem. Please tell me, how do we stop the heart of the children from hurting, because mom or dad is not there? Kids are tough, they will bounce back. Why do we make life tougher on them than it already is?

Yet, this little girl's story had a happy ending. Mom and Dad reconsidered and stayed together. Unfortunately, many of these stories don't have happy endings. Yet, reality compels me to say happy endings are the exception – not the rule!.

Remember, God's ways are the best. Spare your children this type of hurt! Sadly, circumstances can be such that divorce is the desire by the unfaithful mate and is unavoidable. Scriptural divorce is taught and the offended party has this option to end the marriage. Yet, the collateral damage will always exist because of the children. Pray and work hard to limit the damage as much as possible when it happens. Love for God and your mate will never place your children in this position! ***