

Four Enemies of the Home

Ephesians 4-5

Introduction:

- The **home** is God's first ordained institution and is the foundation of everything else in society.
- Because of this, Satan's **plan** has always been to attack the home and attempt to fracture and disintegrate it.
- From Ephesians we will see four enemies of the Christian home. All four enemies contribute greatly in destroying the home.

First enemy: parents who walk **ungodly** - vs. 4:17-22

- Once we know Christ, we put off the old person we were **before** Christ. Our identity is no longer ungodly, but rather **God** lives within us.
- When parents choose to live according to the deeds of the old man, it **destroys** children.
- Children do not tend to imitate what parents **say**, but what they **do**.

Second enemy: **evil companions** - vs. 5:5-13

- Once we are saved, we are now **light** in the Lord and we have no business fellowshiping with the works of darkness.

- Who we associate ourselves with can literally make or break us spiritually.
 - *“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”*
Proverbs 13:20
 - *“Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.”* **Proverbs 22:24-25**
- Parents had better **know** who their children’s friends are and should guide them in choosing the right kind of friends.

Third enemy: unresolved *anger* - vs. 4:26-27

- It is possible to be angry and not sin, but so many times anger is **out** of control and directed in the wrong place.
- Anger should lead us to sit down and apply Biblical **solutions** to our problems.
- Without this, anger simply stirs up strife and leads to **more** sin.
 - *“An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.”* **Proverbs 29:22**

Fourth enemy: bitterness and hatred in the *heart* - vs. 4:30-32

- Clearly, bitterness and hatred have no place in your new **life** in Christ.
- Hebrews 12:15 warns about the root of bitterness.
- In the end, this deadly root will **choke** your marriage, your children, your spiritual growth, and most of all, it will destroy **you**.