

Message Series: Making Marriage Work

“Helper Does Not Mean Enabler” – Part 1

Introduction:

1. A healthy home should be a place that builds up and affirms the _____ of each member. Ephesians 5:25, 28, 33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21
2. But, many families have become dysfunctional.
 - “Dysfunctional” describes a state of not _____ correctly.
 - A dysfunctional family has gotten _____ in unhealthy relationship patterns, and actually begins _____ down its members emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.
 - Because everyone is affected when one member experiences a problem, it is possible for the entire family to become unhealthy in _____ to the hurt, broken, dysfunctional behavior of one member.
3. Family members can begin to _____-compensate for the dysfunctional family member.
 - Once this happens, the irresponsible member does not have to resume his proper place in the family.
 - He is allowed to _____ irresponsible because other members of the family have _____ him to do so. This is not God’s way.
2 Thessalonians 3:11-15
 - *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.” Galatians 6:1*
4. When a husband’s behavior has severely damaged the marriage, many times the wife has had a hand in creating, or at least perpetuating, the problem. She became an _____ to her husband.
5. Why do wives many times enable their husbands in their sin or disobedience?
Why do family members so often become enablers?

Next week, we will learn why, and how they can overcome this.