

Louisville Sept 17 - night

RELIGION IN A FIVE ROOM HOUSE
Gen. 18:19.

Family religion is very vital to the home, the school, the state, and the Church.

When I begin to think in these terms my mind goes back to my boyhood days out in a little country community in Northeast Mississippi. At twilight we would go out in the yard, in warm weather, to have family worship. I could hear across the little valley an uncle singing in their yard at the same time. I remember that when they went up to the church they knew how to pray. There was something in that which stableized spirituality in the community. GOD GIVE US MORE HOME WORSHIP SERVICES.

Many perils threaten our nation. Much of it is caused by irreligious foreign elements coming in that are not Christianized and by unChristian entertainment that takes our people away from church and throws a coldness on home religion or, as we say, family religion. No worse calamity could befall us than for family religion to cease to be practiced.

If family religion is gone why then a display of religion at the church or out anywhere in the public is merely camafilage. If it does not work in the home it is hypocritical in the public.

History of the early church shows that the men who influenced the world most for God...such as Calvin, Wesley, Luther, and Augustine..were reared in good homes. Our early Christian homes gave the children pre-views of what our heavenly home will be like. Monica, the mother of Augustine often went to her pastor to ask united prayers for her wayward son. He was converted and founded doctrines of the church which have witstood attacks till this day.

Since home religion is so important let us study together Christian religion in a five room house. This is no idle or catch title..it is something that faces us to day with grave responsibilities.

ROOMS....5

Let us think first of the kitchen. This is the room of toil. A good verse for this room is Col. 3:23. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord and not unto men." By many people this is counted the room of drudgery, others love it best of all rooms in the house. Here the food is prepared to build up the health of the family, to enable them to grow, work, and become something. Some have used it to poison and kill...within the bounds of the Greenville District the news flashed one morning that a woman has poisoned several people at her table... with food from her kitchen. You will recall that in 11 Kings 4:40 sons of the Prophets were eating and suddenly cried out to Elisha, 'There is death in the pot and they could not eat it.

We will look second at the DINNING ROOM. "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." You will enter this room and most always the mistress of the home and kitchen has been so expert that she appears not to have labored much...but dont you ever think that a nice meal can be prepared and served without LOTS of labor and patience.

Entrance into this room should be characterized by religion. Gratitude for the food..that is gratitude to God who made it. Gratitude to the one or ones who prepared and served it. No meal should ever be eaten without first..as we say.. asking the blessing. *2nd part of prayer that it*

The head of a household who rushes in to the table, says no blessing but slashes and slams and grumbles about the food ought to be taken out behind the house and given a good dose of hickory tea...this most likely shows that family religion was likely dead in the home where he was reared. If not then he is the worse for he disgraces his childhood home.

Here is the room for clean and cheerful conversations... Such aids the digestion. It would not be bad to use the Upper Room at one of the meals.

There then is the Bed Room. "Come ye apart and rest awhile" This room should always witness one kneeling at the bedside or at least with eyes uplifted in prayer even though you retire before saying your prayers. Heart-aches and trials of ~~th~~ are laid before the Lord here. Here we are refreshed for

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The labor of the coming day.

THERE THEN IS THE LIVING ROOM. We used to call it the parlor, reception room etc.

" Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Here music is learned... here you bring in the sort of company you desire your children to have...here your family touches society.

I have purposely left the next room till last..It is known as the family room or Mothr's room. The room where mother stays will soon be the family room for pretty soon all the family will be in there.

After the meals have been cooked, served, and eaten...after society has gone home soon the family is in this room and a digest of the day is gone over and if there be little ones they are taught such little prayers as " I lay me down to sleep...or if not there they go from there to the room where they are taught.

The verse for this room is: " Be ye kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly love...in honor preferring one another."

