part from her husband; if she does depart, however, she is to remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. Women initiate a majority of the divorce actions in American society because the man she married abandons her. Divorce must be eliminated from the Christian family. We cannot afford to witness the human carnage, misery, and suffering that follows its aftermath. A divorce is often worse than death. It is a civil war that rages between two people who are vowed to live together for life. The baneful influence of divorce upon children is beyond description. We must work to remove the word "divorce" and the misery that follows from the Living Church.

LIVE WITH YOUR WIFE ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE

"Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them (your wives) ***according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."*** The prayer life of every Christian man is increased or decreased in terms of his relationship with his wife. The Apostle Peter commands the man to dwell with the woman according to knowledge; that would be the knowledge of God and His Word. The woman, being the weaker vessel, is dependent on the leadership of her husband. The husband and the wife are heirs together of the grace of life and must truly be "one flesh" in union with Jesus Christ. Can we speculate on what kind of knowledge a man must have in order to be the leader, provider, and protector of the wife of his youth? I hope that some of the following points would be the kind of **knowledge** that would enable a man to guide the wife of his youth forward in a strong and permanent marriage.

1) A man must understand that the first call of the woman is to be his help meet. The wife will be the best friend and counsel that a godly man will have in this life. Commune with your wife and let her help you build and work a life vision to the glory of Jesus Christ. In marriage the man and the woman are **yoked together** under Jesus Christ. When two people are **yoked together,** they must work in **unity** or the yoke will break them asunder.

2) A man must be the spiritual leader of his family. Take charge of the spiritual requirements and needs of your wife. Call her to prayer, Bible study, and take her to church. Become the spiritual head of your household. Take charge of the children when it is appropriate for you to do so. **Men, become involved with your children.** Do not abandon the spiritual needs of your wife.

3) A man must be the protector of his wife. It is important that you hedge the wife with Christian armor. Do not send your wife into places where she is without the cover and protection of her husband. Be sensitive to the dangers that threaten your wife and take charge of her physical security.

4) A man must be the provider for his family. The godly woman will make tremendous contributions to the economic well being of a family. Her ability to guide the house, care for the children, and make the home a learning center, a food producing center, and a clothing center will have great financial rewards. **The wife must play a significant role in helping the economic fortunes of the family, but the father remains the primary provider.** The woman's place is in the home with her children. It is the man's duty to find an honest means of supporting his family.

5) A man must communicate with his wife, seek her counsel on all important matters, and let her know that she is the most important person in his life. A woman needs to know that her husband does love her and that she counts as an important person in his life.

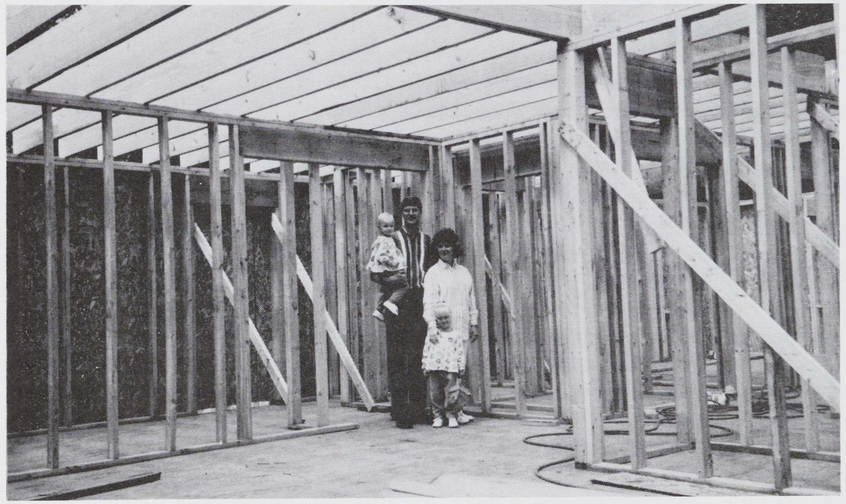
6) A man must enter marriage with Biblical knowledge to insure the health of his wife. This could mean knowledge and application of this information in a number of ways. Firstly, a man should be circumcised. Circumcision is important because Scripture commands it, and because it also insures better health for the woman. There are a number of dangers that an uncircumcised male can present to the woman. Many female problems, including cervical cancer, can result from a woman living with an uncircumcised husband. Secondly, the man must honor the seven day monthly cycle as per Scripture **(Leviticus 15:15:19, 18:19, 20:18).** Each month the man should honor the monthly cycle of the woman by a seven day period of total abstinence from conjugal relations. Failure to do so can have serious medical consequences for the woman. **Men, learn to live with your wives according to Godly knowledge.** Thirdly, the husband should allow a period of forty days of abstinence following the birth of the male child and eighty days for the female **(Leviticus 12)**. The post child birth purification laws are extremely important for the health of the woman, and failure to live by God's Law will have serious consequences.

7) Finally, a man must learn to cultivate habits in his marriage that will enhance the happiness of his wife. Remember that if the wife is not happy, it is not likely that anyone will be happy in the home. A happy woman makes a house a home. A wise husband will find ways to praise his wife for the positive things that she does. A wise husband will be a man of steel when he needs to be and a man of velvet when the occasion calls for it. Men, learn the spirit of gratefulness and gentleness, and be firm when you have to be. **Above all, take time to praise your wife for the good things she does.** Don't belittle her efforts and contributions to the marriage and family. The more you praise her for those areas which are positive, the higher is the possibility that she will improve those areas which are deficient.

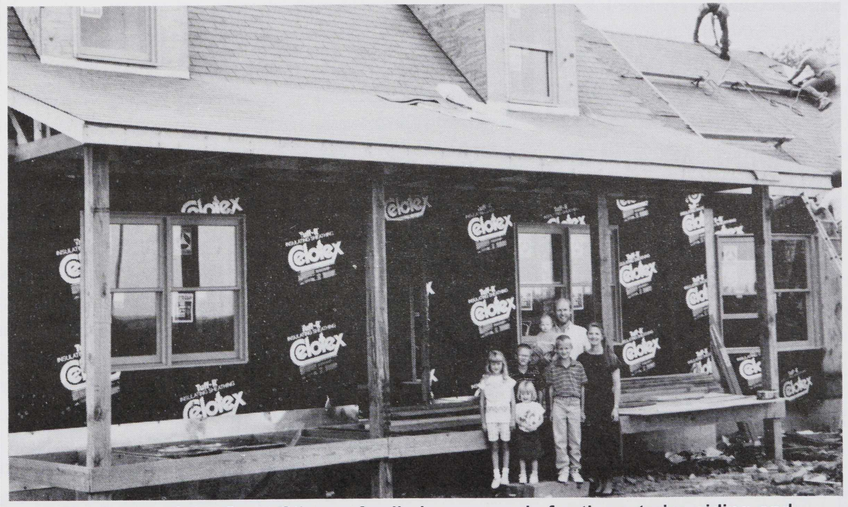
Men, live joyfully with the wife of your youth. If you are one that has lost the wife of your youth and are remarried, then remain married and make every effort to guide your second wife forward with all that has been discussed in this article. Above all, let us remain true to our vows and rebuild the foundations of marriage in a Godless generation. ✞

Two New Homes Under Construction!

"Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them;" In the spirit of Jer. 29:5, two new homes are going up in the local church community! As the future residences of the Reed Benson and Scott Stinson families, these houses are providing the living space required for a growing number of children. The biblical imperative to put down deep roots and raise up children in a wholesome rural environment is being realized for these two families through the miraculous provision that Yahweh is making in the form of these two homes. May our Heavenly Father receive all the praise and glory due His worthy name as bountiful provision is made for Israelites seeking to walk within His covenants!



The Reed Benson family is standing in their new home, which is still in the rough framing stage of construction.



The home of the Scott Stinson family is now ready for the exterior siding and interior sheet rock.

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