



Families In Focus

“Biblical Portraits Of A Single Parent”

- Introduction:
1. In our society today, nearly one out of every three children are raised in a single parent home.
 2. Single parent homes, whether created by divorce, death, or children born out of wedlock are homes that face many rather unique and difficult challenges.
 3. But the single parent is not alone.
 - a. (Isaiah 53:3) Jesus was one who was acquainted with sorrow.
 - b. (Isaiah 1:17) Defend the fatherless and plead for the widow.

I. Special Trials Of Single Parents

- A. With whom does the parent talk when he/she desires adult conversation?
- B. How can one parent address problems that are sometimes too much for two.
- C. Can the child love both parents? Is loving one being disloyal to the other?
- D. How do you help the child get over the irrational fear that they caused the divorce?
- E. Who stays at home with the children when the parent wishes to just run out to the store?

II. What The Church Owes Single Parent Homes

- A. We, as God church, must uphold God's plan for families while at the same time administer grace to those who do not have that ideal situation.
- B. If a single parent is trying to stay faithful to the Lord and raise his/her children well, the parent deserves the support of fellow Christians.

III. A Biblical Portrait Of A Single Parent

- A. (1 Kings 17).
 1. A Place of testing
 2. Increased demands.
 3. Limited resources.
 4. Unexpected trouble.
 5. God's grace.

- Conclusion:
1. Let us do all we can to uphold God's original intent for the home, while at the same time show compassion and offer support to those who have through death, divorce, or poor choices have come up short of God's ideal for the home.

