

# God's Blueprint For The Home

## Lesson 12: God's Blueprint For Restoring Broken Homes



Discovering God's Word  
Bible Study Series

## Lesson 12: God's Blueprint For Restoring Broken Homes

Learn how broken homes can become pleasing to God

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### Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series

**Study Number:** DGW214

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**About the author:** My name is Eric Krieg. I am a disciple of Jesus, a Bible student, a truth seeker, and an evangelist. My interest is in using the Bible as my only guide in my faith. My desire is to help others understand the message of the Bible and pursue true, New Testament Christianity.

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**My plea:** It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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# Lesson 12:

## God's Blueprint For Restoring Broken Homes

God's blueprint is perfect and it is powerful. Whenever you are choosing to begin a home, following this blueprint will result in a home that is pleasing to God and that truly fulfills its God-given purpose. Ideally, those who are considering marriage will closely examine this blueprint prior to beginning their homes so that decisions can be made that please God.

But, this blueprint is also effective whenever homes have already begun and decisions have been made that do not please God. Satan has been effective in influencing many homes not to follow God's blueprint. This has resulted in broken homes. Sometimes, these homes have been broken many times over due to various departures from God's blueprint.

Still, God's blueprint has the answers to restore broken homes to what God desires them to be. Yet, you also must recognize that you cannot fully restore a broken home by yourself. Although you can and should do your part in the home, a fully restored home is going to take the cooperation of every member of the family.

So, whenever you recognize that your home is broken, you need to first change yourself and make

your commitment to following God's blueprint for the home. Then, you need to encourage the other members of your family to search out God's blueprint and build accordingly. When every member of the family is committed to building according to God's blueprint, homes that have been broken and appear hopeless can thrive and accomplish God's true purpose for the home! Therefore, let's consider some specific areas for you to evaluate as you focus on restoring a home that is broken.

### ***Restore Righteousness***

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Throughout this series of lessons, we have talked about how Satan has tried to influence our homes not to function according to God's blueprint. The simple fact of the matter is that sin is behind *every* home that is broken. So, in order to restore a home, every member of the home must be committed to restoring the kind of righteousness that God desires to be present in the home. When true righteousness is in place in the home, the destruction that has resulted because of sin will be no more. Following the pattern in Jeremiah 1:10, you must root out, pull down, destroy, and throw down everything that is evil in the home and is not according to God's standard of righteousness, and then build and plant only that which is pleasing to God.

### ***Put off the old man***

If you and your family members have been allowing sin to remain in your lives, you have contributed to the destruction of the home for long enough! Listen to Romans 13:11-14. "And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts."

You have spent enough time living for your own selfish desires that work against your home and your salvation. Every minute that you spend in sin is another minute that you take your home further away from the blueprint God has made for the home. Now, it is long past the time to wake up out of your spiritual slumber in the darkness of sin and it is time to put on Jesus Christ and live for righteousness.

Just take some time to evaluate yourself and consider what kinds of unrighteousness you have been involved in. Ephesians 4:22 says, “that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.” Colossians 3:5 says, “Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth....”

Then, Colossians 3:5-9 goes on to identify some of the things that you must put to death in your life, including: Fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, covetousness, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, and filthy language. All of these things (and every kind of sinful activity) work to destroy your home. Therefore, you cannot allow anything that is sinful to remain in your life if you want your home to be built according to God’s blueprint!

Then, after you make the determination to put off the works of sin/darkness in your own life, you should work to encourage the other members of the home to do the same. Not only do these things destroy the home, but (most importantly) they destroy the soul of every member of the home. The result of these things is eternal spiritual death (separation) from God in Hell (Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8).

### ***Put on the new man***

Putting off the old man of sin is a good place for you to begin in the home. But, it is only the *beginning*. Your home will not be restored if this is where your efforts end. Instead, you must also work to put on the new man who is committed to living according to God’s standard of righteousness.

For instance, Romans 13:11-14 did not stop at casting off the works of darkness. Instead, you must also “put on the armor of light” and “walk properly, as in the day.” Ephesians 4 continues (after instructing to put off the old man), “and be renewed

in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness” (Ephesians 4:23-24). Then, Colossians 3 also speaks of putting “on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him” (Colossians 3:10).

The place every member of the home (who has reached the age of accountability) must begin in this area is by becoming Christians. There can simply be no true righteousness without individuals doing what God has required of them to become followers of Jesus Christ and have their sins forgiven by God. So, those who have sinned and need to be forgiven must: (1) Hear God’s word (Romans 10:17), (2) believe in Jesus Christ (John 8:24), (3) repent of their sins (Acts 17:30), (4) confess Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9-10), and (5) be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).

After being obedient to God’s plan of salvation, you must live in a different and transformed kind of way and remain faithful to God throughout your life on this earth (Revelation 2:10). Colossians 3:12-17 identifies some specific things that will now be part of your new life in Jesus Christ: Tender mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering, willingness to bear with others, commitment to forgive others, love (the kind of true love God wants you to show toward all people, including the members of your home – as discussed in lesson 2), peace, thankfulness, and a determination to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then, this new way of life is even going to extend to the order of the home (see Colossians 3:18-21).

You must begin this transformation by becoming a Christian yourself and making the kinds of changes God wants from your life. Then, you should go to work on your family members. Try to teach by both word and example to your spouse so that he/she will also be converted to Jesus Christ. Then, train your children in the way of righteousness that is patterned after God. The more people in your home who will put off the old man of sin and put on the new man of righteousness, the more your home will eliminate the sin that destroys it and be restored to the kind of home God desires for you to build!

# ***Restore Marriage***

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In lesson 3 of our study, we discussed God's blueprint for marriage. In it, we considered God's marriage law. Yet, it is common for homes today not to have followed God's blueprint for marriage or God's marriage law. This *always* results in a broken home. And, the only way that God can be pleased is when His blueprint is applied to each one of these situations. Consider a few examples.

## ***Eliminate fornication***

There are many people who try to have a home today while two people are having sexual relationships and living together outside of marriage. Yet, God condemns this as the sin of fornication. Remember that Hebrews 13:4 says, "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."

The fact of the matter is that this is not a real home. Two people have never even made the kind of commitment to one another that God desires in marriage. So, this pretend "home" is set up for failure from the start. And, studies even show that couples who live together before marriage have an even higher divorce rate than the average (which is already exceptionally high today)! So, it is certainly a mistake to try to begin a home by living together outside of marriage "to see if it will work out"!

Then, sometimes this situation is complicated further by a child or multiple children who are born to this kind of relationship. Although there are now responsibilities that fall on the parents (as we discussed through this series), a decision still must be made between the man and the woman. It is unacceptable for them to continue living in sin and it is harmful to the child to be raised in that sin-filled environment! Yet, the fact that there is a child does *not* mean that the parents must marry one another. While they must no longer live together and engage in fornication, two wrongs do not make a right.

## ***Eliminate homosexuality***

There are some "homes" that are formed between those who are of the same sex. But, this has

never been God's plan for homes. Instead, Jesus (in referencing the beginning of the marital relationship in Genesis 2) said, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matthew 19:4-6).

Notice that God's blueprint for marriage includes a male and a female. A man was to be joined to his wife. They are the ones who should become one flesh. Every time the Bible considers the subject of homosexual relations (and never does it even mention homosexual marriages), it always condemns them as sinful relationships. For instance, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 says, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

Then, not only are these relationships spiritually dangerous, but they never produce the kind of home that pleases God and they harm any children who are involved in that "home." There is no way to begin with a homosexual relationship (whether a marriage or not) and build according to God's blueprint. The only way to make any kind of marriage that pleases God in this is for the two partners to get out of that sinful relationship and enter a God-approved heterosexual marital relationship.

## ***Eliminate adultery***

Then, there are some homes that are formed with people who are in an adulterous relationship. With the high rate of divorce that we are currently experiencing, this is becoming increasingly more common. A high percentage of folks have been divorced at least one time. And, many people have been through two and three divorces (and some even more than this).

Now, divorce is acceptable to God under one circumstance. Matthew 19:9 and Matthew 5:31-32 identifies that it is acceptable for one who is innocent

of fornication to divorce one who is guilty of fornication. Then, this one who is innocent of fornication and divorces the one who is guilty of fornication has the God-given right to be remarried (to one who also has the God-given right to be married).

But, many people have departed from God's blueprint concerning His marriage law and find their homes built on marriages that do not have God's approval. Like with the homosexual relationship, God condemns this relationship (as being adultery, see Romans 7:2-3). And, the only course of action that is appropriate is to end the adulterous marriage. Although this is not an easy thing to do, it is far more important for every member of your home to serve God than to maintain a sinful relationship that will result in people spending eternity in Hell (as those who are involved in adultery will, according to 1 Corinthians 6:9-10). As painful as it is, you must end your involvement in an adulterous marriage and do your best to raise any children there may be outside of this relationship. For, you must love Jesus Christ even more than your spouse (see Luke 14:26).

## ***Restore Order***

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Even in homes that begin with God-approved marriages, Satan has convinced a lot of people not to fulfill their God-given role(s) in the home. This quickly destroys the order that God has intended for there to be present in the home and always keeps the home from functioning in the way that it should. So, in order for a home to please God and be the most fulfilling that it can be for everyone involved, the God-given order of the home must be restored.

### ***Husbands and fathers***

As we discussed in lesson 4, God has a blueprint for the role of husbands and fathers. For one, God has assigned the leadership of the home to this individual. Ephesians 5:23 says that "the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church." So, one of the common problems that occur in homes today is that the husband and father does not fulfill his leadership role. Sometimes, he

will neglect his role of leading his family and force others (namely, his wife) to pick up the slack. And, sometimes, the problem is that the man tries to lead his family, but he leads them in a way that does not please God.

The husband also has specific responsibilities toward his wife. This includes loving her as Christ loves the church (Ephesians 5:25-33), dwelling with her in understanding, and giving honor to her as to the weaker vessel (1 Peter 3:7). Then, this includes working to provide for her needs (1 Timothy 5:8). Yet, there are some husbands who do not treat their wives in this kind of a way. The result is a broken home.

Fathers have also been given some specific responsibilities toward their children. These also include working to provide for their children (1 Timothy 5:8). Then, there is the responsibility to train up their children in the ways of God (Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4). Yet, there are some fathers who are not engaged with their children to be an active presence in the lives of their children so as to provide the proper direction. Or, even worse, some fathers are an active presence in their children's lives; but, they actually lead their children in the wrong direction.

### ***Wives and mothers***

Wives and mothers have a special God-assigned place in the home. While there are many women who fight for control and leadership of the home against their husbands, this only works to destroy homes. The woman has a position that only she is qualified to fill. And, whenever she uses her abilities to fulfill this God-given role, it is a truly wonderful thing that is full of blessings to every member of the home.

As a wife, she has the responsibility to love her husband (Titus 2:4). She must also submit to him in all matters of opinion, as the church submits to Christ (Ephesians 5:22-24; 1 Peter 3:1-6). Then, she must also show her husband the respect that is due one to whom God has given authority in the home (Ephesians 5:33). And, she must be a keeper of the domestic affairs of the household (Titus 2:5). When she does not do these things and tries to undermine

her husband's authority, fight against him, or pursue goals that neglect her God-given responsibilities at home, she works to destroy the home.

As a mother, she has the responsibility to love her children and always act in their best interest (Titus 2:4). As a necessary part of this, she must see to it that they are well taken care of while her husband works to provide (Titus 2:5). And, as the one who will be spending the most time with the children, she also has great responsibilities in training the children in the ways of God (Proverbs 22:6). But, whenever mothers neglect this role, the home breaks. If she chooses to pursue selfish desires rather than fulfill her God-appointed role, there is always something (or someone) that suffers.

### **Children**

Children are blessings from God to any home. And, they are great opportunities for parents to train part of the next generation to serve God. Then, children have a way to contribute in the home as well. Namely, children should be committed to showing wisdom by learning from others (especially their parents, see Proverbs 13:1). Yet, whenever children have no interest in listening to the wise counsel of their parents, there is destruction that is sure to happen to the home.

So, children must obey and honor their parents (Ephesians 6:1-3). They must learn to respect the authority that their parents have over them and learn submission to that authority. Even (and especially) when parents instruct something that a child does not like, the child must be taught to yield his/her own desires to the desires of the parents. But, if children rebel against this authority, not only will this have devastating consequences for the child – but also for the home.

Then, a child's responsibility toward his/her parents does not end whenever he/she grows and leaves the home. Instead, the Bible teaches that children must learn to have such respect for their parents and grandparents that they repay them later in life (see 1 Timothy 5:3-16). It is truly sad to see children and grandchildren who have such disrespect for their parents and grandparents that they are

unwilling to do what they can to help their aging parents and grandparents – financially or otherwise!

## ***Restore Trust***

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Whenever there have been failings in the home, one of the first things that is broken is trust. So, those who have failed in the past and contributed to the current state of a broken home must determine to do whatever they can to restore trust. For, whenever a member of the home conducts himself/herself in selfish ways so as to sin and go against God's blueprint in any area, the other members lose confidence in him/her. Instead of seeing someone who is working for the best interests of the entire home, the other members of the home see someone who is okay with putting himself/herself first – even at the expense of the family! So, consider some steps that someone who has demonstrated this kind of selfishness can take to restore trust.

### ***Experience godly sorrow***

Sorrow is an important step in gaining trust in any home. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted" (Matthew 5:4). Then, the apostle Paul said, "Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter" (2 Corinthians 7:9-11).

Whenever a member of the home has sinned, sorrow should be experienced by that person. If he/she does not appear sorrowful about his/her failings, the others will not have any reason to trust that person or think that any real change has been made. But, even when sorrow is experienced, it must

also be from the right source. For, it is not enough for an individual to sorrow over sin because he/she got caught or is experiencing some physical consequence. Instead, there must be true godly sorrow for the sin that has been done. This is the only kind of sorrow that will result in true and lasting change – and a restoration of trust.

### ***Sincerely repent***

God wants everyone who has sinned to repent of their sin. Jesus said, “I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). Later, the apostle Paul said, “Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30).

Repentance is a determination to live differently. It involves looking on your past sin with abhorrence, hating every part of the sin you have committed. You don’t look back on that selfish decision as being pleasurable or desirable. Then, you determine that you will not make that kind of selfish decision again. Instead, your determination must be to only make decisions and conduct yourself in ways that please God. Without this kind of sincere repentance, there will be no real and lasting change for people to look to and trust you again.

### ***Seek God’s forgiveness***

Your sin has not just caused your home to suffer. Instead, your sin has spiritual consequences and you are not trustworthy in God’s sight. You have shown Him that you will choose to live for your own selfish pleasures and treasures rather than do His will.

So, you must seek God’s forgiveness of the sin you have committed. If you are not a true Christian, God will forgive you whenever you are obedient to His plan of salvation (that we discussed previously). If you have done this at one time and have went back into sin, you must repent, confess your sin to God, and ask Him to forgive you (see Acts 8:22 and 1 John 1:9). When you do this, God forgives you. And, once you are forgiven by God, other people should be able to see that you are living a changed life and work to trust you again.

### ***Confess your sin to others***

Although the only confession that you must make of private sin (sin that only you and God know about and that only affects you) is to God, public sin (sin that at least one other person knows about and/or affects other people) must be dealt with in a more public way. So, if your family members know about or are affected by the sin you have committed, you must confess your sin to them.

Look at James 5:16. “Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” Just think about it. How will the people who know you have sinned know that you regret that sin and want to be forgiven of it unless you tell them? So, you need to confess your sin specifically (i.e. name what the sin is) to those who are aware of it. This will help them recognize that you are determined to live differently and that you are seeking their forgiveness, acknowledging that you have hurt them in the past by your selfish conduct.

### ***Produce the fruit of repentance***

Now, we must not stop there. For, just admitting to wrongdoing does not always result in true change. So, many people will be hesitant to fully trust another again until there is evidence of a real change. Although godly sorrow, repentance, seeking God’s forgiveness, and confessing your public sin to others are necessary and should work to re-establish trust with each step, this final step is what should help put it “over the top.”

God teaches you to produce the fruit of repentance. For instance, Matthew 3:8 speaks of bearing “fruits worthy of repentance.” Acts 26:20 says that the gospel requires people to “repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.” Thus, your repentance and confession must not be *empty* and *action-less*. Instead, it must be fruitful and truly demonstrate a new way of living. This will help people recognize that you have truly changed from all of the selfish and harmful ways you may have conducted yourself in the home previously!



## ***Restore Forgiveness***

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Another problem that has kept homes broken is how the members of the home have dealt with the past sins that have been corrected (as I described in the previous section). There are some who have been unwilling to forgive and move beyond the past sins. So, the fault for the broken home now lies with the one who is not willing to forgive. In order for the home to be restored, there must be the right combination of correcting the sin God's way and forgiving the sin God's way.

### ***Forgiveness is commanded by God***

It is common for folks to have been hurt so much or so many times, that they do not want to open themselves up and give the offender another opportunity to hurt them again. While we understand this sentiment, we also must apply what God teaches about forgiveness. In Luke 17:3-4, Jesus said, "Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."

Now, sometimes, we may be guilty of thinking that there is a limit to the forgiveness that we must offer to another person. Yet, Jesus teaches against any kind of arbitrary limit. Certainly, there is no place where this may be experienced more than in a home. So, even though someone in the home may sin against you seven times in one day, you must forgive whenever that individual says he/she has repented.

During the lifetime of the members of the home, these transgressions are likely to start mounting up. And, this often results in people getting divorces or having relationships that are not what God would have them to be. Yet, whenever Jesus was asked by Peter, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" (Matthew 18:21), Jesus responded, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven" (Matthew 18:22). So, there is to be no limit placed on forgiveness in the home – no matter

how many times or how badly a member of the home may sin against and hurt you.

### ***True forgiveness is patterned after God***

As a further response to Peter, Jesus told him a story to illustrate what true forgiveness looks like (see Matthew 18:23-34). There was a servant who was indebted to a king so much that he could never have repaid the debt. When he pleaded for mercy, the king forgave him of all his debt. Then, that forgiven servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount of money. Yet, when the fellow servant pleaded for mercy, he would not forgive him. Now, when the king found out about this conduct, he was furious and demanded that the servant he had forgiven be punished for his failure to show the same kind of mercy to another.

As this parable applies to the great forgiveness God has shown to each one of us, Jesus concludes by saying, "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses" (verse 35). Surely, you have sinned against God and incurred a debt that could never be paid – at least once. Perhaps you have sinned against God many times (even many times in one day). Yet, you want God to forgive you. In the same way, God says that you must forgive others who sin against you (even those in your home). Colossians 3:13 says, "bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

Now, just as you must learn to forgive from God, you must also learn what it means to forgive by the way God forgives. True forgiveness involves much more than just saying, "I forgive you." In fact, whenever God forgives you of your past sin, it is like a great and unpayable debt being entirely wiped away. It is not held against your charge any longer. And, so it must be for how you forgive others. Although the sin may have caused great personal suffering, you must strive diligently not to hold the sin against the other any longer.

## ***Pressing forward in the home***

In order to restore a broken home, there must reach a point at which everyone in the home decides to all press forward *together!* Rather than living in sin or failing to forgive, sin must be corrected and forgiven. Then, there must be a collective effort to move beyond the past failures that have happened in the home and reach forward together.

Listen to Paul, in Philippians 3:12-14. “Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Paul had done many things against God and against other people in the past. But, he realized that he could not live in the past if he wanted to serve God and live eternally in Heaven. So, he determined to forget those things that were behind (in the sense of allowing them to hold him back) and reach and press forward toward “the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Wouldn’t it be wonderful if homes that have been broken (perhaps broken many times over) decided to do this same thing? Correct the things that have caused the home to break, grant true forgiveness, and don’t allow the home to be held back by the past any longer! Just push forward and build together according to God’s blueprint!

## ***Conclusion***

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God’s blueprint can fix your broken home! No matter how much your home has been broken. No matter how long your home has been broken. If you will determine to build according to God’s blueprint and convince the other members of your home to build according to God’s blueprint, your home can be what God would have it to be!

No matter where you or your home are right now, it is not too late to build according to God’s

blueprint! Other blueprints have been followed throughout the course of human history. But, they all fail in some way. The only blueprint that really does result in the best possible home is God’s blueprint. Then, when God’s blueprint is followed, it is a spiritually beneficial thing for every member of the family!

## ***Study Questions***

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How has Satan broken many homes?

### **1. Restore Righteousness**

How is putting off the old man important to restoring a broken home?

How is putting on the new man important to restoring a broken home?

### **2. Restore Marriage**

How is eliminating fornication important to restoring a broken home?

How is eliminating homosexuality important to restoring a broken home?

How is eliminating adultery important to restoring a broken home?

### **3. Restore Order**

How is restoring the order for a husband and father important to restoring a broken home?

How is true forgiveness patterned after God important to restoring a broken home?

How is restoring the order for a wife and mother important to restoring a broken home?

How is pressing forward important to restoring a broken home?

How is restoring the order for children important to restoring a broken home?

#### **4. Restore Trust**

How is experiencing godly sorrow important to restoring a broken home?

How is sincerely repenting important to restoring a broken home?

How is seeking God's forgiveness important to restoring a broken home?

How is confessing your sin to others important to restoring a broken home?

How is producing the fruit of repentance important to restoring a broken home?

#### **5. Restore Forgiveness**

How is forgiveness important to restoring a broken home?