

Desperate Households Series Part #3 – Desperate Parenting

Ephesians 6:1-4

Series Summary

Cicero Christian Church presents Desperate Households, a series about life, love, and marriage. We go beneath the surface to consider the struggles that every married couple faces: with love, communication, and raising kids. This sermon will focus on what women truly desire and need in a man in order to feel loved, valued, and inspired to become the woman of God that He desires for them to be.

Big Idea

The Big Idea of this sermon is: **The Example we set today will be the lifestyle of the next generation.** One of the most important investments we could ever make into this generation is to teach them about the importance of having an intimate, thriving, and transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

Desperate Advice for Desperate Parents

Point to Ponder #1 – Your Example Counts

- **Deuteronomy 6:4-6** – Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.
- **Key Point** – We must understand as parents that our children will follow our example over our words every time. If we want the next generation to impact the world for Jesus Christ then we must begin by changing OUR hearts, minds, lives, and priorities today!

Point to Ponder #2 – Prayer Does Matter

- **Luke 18:7** – And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?
- **Key Point** – Every day we wake up to the deadliest battle we have ever faced, a war that has been waged against men, women, and children. Our families are being attacked by the subtle lies Satan spreads through the media, the newspapers, video games, television sitcoms, and many more avenues. Yet, adults act as if they cannot be touched and we seem to be shocked when our children become casualties of the war. Men and women need to pray because it is the only defense that we have against Satan for our lives, our families, and our children.

Point to Ponder #3 – Follow the Three C Formula

- **1 John 4:7** – Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
- **Deuteronomy 6:7-9** – Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.
- **Proverbs 13:24** – He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.
- **Key Point** – What do our children of today need? You ask the world and it will say that they need: Video Games, Alcohol, Drugs, and many other things. You ask God and He says that

they need Godly influence and the three C's which will lead them to confidence of who they are and what they can achieve for and through God!

Point to Ponder #4 – Celebrate the Lord

- **Psalm 78:1-4** – O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. ² I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old—what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. ⁴ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.
- **Key Point** – There are too many adults today that say they believe in God and his wonderful, saving, transforming power yet they live in weakness and defeat instead of strength and victory. Our youth are watching our words and actions and they cannot understand why we praise God with our lips and still remain so far from Him in our heart. We need more adults today to praise and celebrate God in their times of distress and times of victory.

Memory Verse

Ephesians 6:10 – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

Big Challenge

- 1.) Take the handout: Desperate Advice for Desperate Parents that is provided and learn more about how you can become a better example of Godliness to the youth of this culture.

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