House Rules #4 “Stating Assumptions” Ephesians 5:33 – 6:9

**Intro**: Small business owner… company pride and loyalty…

 Solid gold tie tack at end of First year… logo.

 Young man received with joy…. Stuck it in his nose!

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 2015 – ***Ministry in a New Marriage Culture***

* Obvious Changes… same sex marriage

1 in 4 fathers live apart from their children.

1 in 2 mothers now have a baby first and marry later.

30% increase in cohabitation in the last 10 years.

**t/s** – Old Assumptions about family life can no longer be left unstated

 ***Supposition*** – a correct assumption…

 Facts for granted in discussion, work or presentation.

In June… jump into practical truth about being wife, husband, child parent. Today, clearly state ***four suppositions***. (announce text)

**Review**: ***For His Glory; Under His Authority and In His Power***

 Paul’s Household Code… Jesus Is Lord at Home.

**Ephesians 5: 33 – 6:9**

**This New Testament Household Code is Relevant Truth for Today**.

**Exp** – Many people, even in churches, say… ***out-dated***, ***out of touch*** with the realities of family, gender and sexuality today!

Based on an old, oppressive patriarchal family structure.

 ***Salves be obedient to Masters***! (clearly culture bound)

***Paul is speaking to a real cultural context***

* Roman household comprised of husbands/wives; children/parent; slaves/Masters --- Paul addresses.

(1 in three people in Roman world was a slave)

(One Half of the church in Ephesus were slaves)

***Paul treats slavery differently*** ---

No foundation in ***Creation***, in the ***Law*** or connection to the ***Gospel***… ***No theological justification.***

Undermines the Institution --- ***Dignity*** of every person under Christ; & ***Accountability*** of every person to Christ

**App** – Paul is writing to real people in a real time…cultural context.

 A Family in Ephesus was different from our families today.

* Interpret Carefully… ***Handle Accurately*** (2 Tim. 2:15)

Wrong to Ignore Cultural issues and defend slavery.

Wrong to totally reject everything here as irrelevant.

 **Household Code is Relevant Truth for Today**

**Gender is God-Given and Good.**

**Exp** – Paul is assuming the foundation of ***Genesis*** Creation Account.

 Gen. 1-2 – ***Male and Female… in God’s Image… Very Good***!

 He quotes Genesis 2 in 5:31--- Stating His assumption.

 ***God-Given*** = We do not pick our own Gender. (Identity)

 ***Good*** – Male and female In His Image!

**ILL** – January 2017 National Geographic Cover of special issue

 ***Gender Revolution*** “free from the ***binary*** male and female”…

58 options on Facebook… Free Indeed…Adrift

**Note** - Counter Cultural: Ancient (Gender is Good)

Modern (Gender is God-Given)

*While being absolutely equal in personhood and dignity, man and woman are distinct in their roles in the home* – ***Complementary***

**App** – Gender is God-Given and Good.

 To be celebrated, embraced, encouraged…

**Marriage is a Covenant between One Man and One Woman.**

**Exp** – We will talk more directly about this in next two weeks.

 Marriage is for a man and a woman.

**Marriage** (change culture by changing language)

*The social institution under which a man and woman establish their decision to live as husband and wife by legal commitments and religious ceremony*. – **Random House** dictionary on my desk

**Dictionary.com** – *Any of the diverse forms of interpersonal union established to form a familial bond*

**ILL** – Orwell, 1984, Language is changed by the Party in control

 ***Old Speak*** (standard English) replaced by ***Newspeak***.

 Winston Smith… ***2 + 2 does equal 5***

**App** – Changing a definition does not change the Truth of Scripture.

 God’s Design for marriage is One Man and One Woman.

 (Important to hold, teach in the Body of Christ)

**Bible Truth about Family is seldom Popular, but it Is always Good.**

**Exp** – Remember, not “***Traditional***” Family values… ***biblical***.

 Biblical Values have always Challenged the Culture or

 Compromised with the Culture.

 ***Seldom Popular***…

**ILL** – Herod chopped off the head of John the Baptist. Why?

 He confronted Herod with Bible Truth about Marriage!

 Stop Whining!

 ***Always Good***

**Romans 12:2** – *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and pleasing and perfect.*

***Prove*** = Put it on Display in your life as Reliable.

Let’s show our neighbors that the Word of God is True. By living it out in our homes.

**Conclusion**

*Free from the binary of boy/girl Gender identity*… The father of lies is always promised freedom and delivering bondage.

* Free like a ship without anchor or rudder

***The Word is the Law of Liberty…***

***Abide in My word and you will truly be My disciples; you will know the truth and the truth will make you Free!***

**Welcome Remarks --- Call to Worship**

**ILL –** Little boy looking at a war memorial plague in church, names of young men and women form church…

* Pastor, Those are the people who died in the Service.
* Boy looked at pastor and back at plaque; 9:30 or 11:00?

Welcome to QSBC (Guest cards; Prayer… Greet Each Other)

James Bradford is out with our High School Choir….

 Welcome Nick Johnson (Erin) and Aaron Lokey (Nikki)

 (SWBTS Seminary Graduate…. Pride of Oklahoma)

Tomorrow is Memorial Day – A Day for Remembering, Honoring

* Those who gave their last full measure of devotion.
* Loved Ones – *long wearing out of grief*. Wendell Berry

***Remember*** is an important Bible Word.

*Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

Let’s Pray Together