



# **The Christian Family**

## **Module 3**



**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**

# **The Christian Family**

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### **ACAT-SDP CURRICULUM**

### **CIRCUIT TEACHING INTERNATIONAL**

The Bible study materials produced by Circuit Training International (CTI) were originally written for pastors and ministers of churches who had little or no opportunity of formal Bible College training. The interest shown by many other Christians in the Bible Study materials resulted in the expansion of this programme to meet the spiritual needs of people not only in South Africa but also in other countries world-wide.

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# The Christian Family

## Course Outcomes

1. To bring people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. To make disciples of Jesus Christ.
3. To assist people towards Christian maturity.
4. To produce people and groups who demonstrate Godly perspectives in and through their:
  - 4.1 Acts of compassion
  - 4.2 Moral behaviour
  - 4.3 Work ethic
  - 4.4 Social concern
  - 4.5 Care of the environment

## Module Outcome

### **After completing this module you will know :**

- God's plan for the Christian Family in the context of Christ-centred relationships in the home and marriage.
- God's plan for the mother, the father and children in the home;
- How to exercise godly discipline and parenting to God's honour and glory;
- The importance of having a home that is a witness and testimony to God's grace in the community.

# The Christian Family

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# Lesson 1

## The Christ-centred family

**Outcomes :** You will :

- Commit yourself to making the Lord Jesus Christ the centre of your family;
- Make your home a place where God is at home.

### 1. Who or what is the centre of our home?

1. We as families must ask ourselves who is centre of our homes?
2. Is it one of the following:
  - a) The father or mother?
  - b) The children?
  - c) The grandparents?
  - d) Wealth and possessions?
  - e) The Lord Jesus Christ?
3. Often there is a certain amount of confusion in Christian homes where Jesus has to share His position with other people and things?
4. **Read** Joshua 24 : 15
  - a) Joshua challenged his people with a very direct and clear statement, “Choose you this day whom you will serve.”
  - b) Remember, whatever comes between one’s heart and Christ is an idol, because the Lord Jesus should never take second place.

### 2. Important guidelines for the Christian home

**Read** Psalm 119 : 105

1. God has not left us in the dark as to how to run a home. He created marriage and the home, therefore He will guide us through His Word.

2. Many young married couples and newly-saved parents are afraid that they do not know enough of God's Word to lead their home in a godly way.
3. We should never fear this problem because as long as our hearts are right with God, He will guide by His Spirit, His Word, His ministers and the brethren in the Church.
4. Because the world has strayed too far from God, men have devised many of their own ways to run their homes. These ways have even become part of their culture.
5. Be careful not to fall into the ways of men, but check that it does not clash with the Word of God. Even the deep things in our culture take second place to the mighty Word of God.
6. We must concentrate on the following aspects in order for us to have a Christ-centred home:
  - a) The Lordship of Jesus Christ.
  - b) Knowing and obeying God's Word.
  - c) Family prayer.
  - d) Loving one another in word and deed.
  - e) Forgiving one another.

### **3. The Lordship of Jesus Christ**

**Read Deuteronomy 6 : 1 – 5**

1. This is the first great commandment and should be central to the lives of the parents and the children.
2. Moses commanded the parents to pass down to their children and grandchildren a healthy fear and awe of God.
3. They were to have an attentive ear to His voice and live a life of obedience.
4. Of course, this must be done because of great love for God, not because of unnatural fear or bondage.