

## BLENDING FAMILIES (yours, mine, and ours)

Reference: **miscellaneous Scripture**

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**Proverbs 24:3**, *“Through wisdom a **house** is built, and by understanding it is established;”*

**Definition:** A blended family exists where one or both members of the marriage have children from a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship or marriage.

Biblical Example: \_\_\_\_\_

ONE... God has designed the husband and wife relationship to be the \_\_\_\_\_ domestic arrangement.

Reference: **Matthew 19:6**, *“So then, they (the man and woman in marriage) are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore **what God has joined together** (in marriage) **let not man separate.**”*

TWO... God designed the parent-child relationship to be a \_\_\_\_\_ domestic arrangement.

Reference: **Genesis 2:24**, *“Therefore **a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife**, and they shall become one flesh.”*

Reference: **Proverbs 22:6**, *“Train up a child in the way **he should go**, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

THREE... Because the first two statements are true, the husband and wife relationship is therefore to be \_\_\_\_\_ over parent-child relationships.

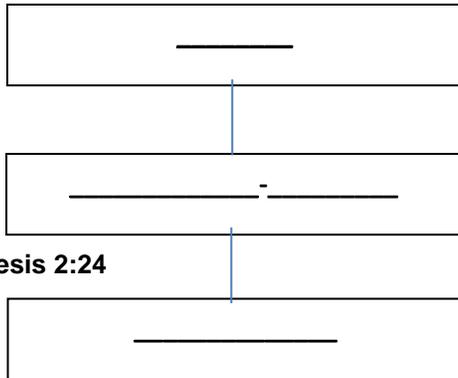
References: **Ephesians 5:22-33** then **6:1-4**

Reference: **I Timothy 3:4; Proverbs 16:2** (see screen)

This is a domestic organizational flowchart that illustrates the biblical chain of command in a familial unit

Reference: **Exodus 20:3**, "You shall have *no other gods before Me.*"

Reference: **Matthew 6:33a**, "But *seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...*"



Reference: **Genesis 2:24**

Reference: **Ephesians 6:1 and 2**, "**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise.**"

There are four different classifications of child-centered parents (adopted from KID CEO, author Ed Young, Jr.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Parents  
These parents are committed to rescuing their child from problems and conflict.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parents  
These parents see their children as potential super-athletes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parents  
These parents have a buddy system with their children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parents  
These parents attempt to reason with their children and relate to them as little adults.

## Practical Action Steps to help Blended Families in Step-Partnering and Step-Parenting

1) Commit to a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ household.  
Reference: **Joshua 24:15b**, "...but *as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*"

2) Establish biblical \_\_\_\_\_ at the outset.

Three reasons parents should establish house rules:  
Rules help maintain \_\_\_\_\_ in the home.  
Reference: **I Corinthians 14:40**, "*let all things be done decently and in order.*"

Parents are \_\_\_\_\_ to provide discipline.  
Reference: **Proverbs 29:15**, "*The rod and rebuke give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.*"

Understanding what is acceptable and unacceptable makes life \_\_\_\_\_ for both the children and the parents.

Reference: **Deuteronomy 12:28**, "*Observe and obey all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children after you forever...*"

3) Parental discussions should happen behind \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: **Proverbs 22:15** (see screen)

4) Parents always present a \_\_\_\_\_ to the children (both biological and step-children).  
Reference: **Matthew 12:25b**, "...every city or *house divided against itself will not stand.*"

5) In areas of potential conflict, utilize \_\_\_\_\_ **4:1-3. verse one**, "*I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,*" **verse two**, "*with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,*" **verse three**, "*endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*"

6) \_\_\_\_\_ the marriage over the parent-child relationship.