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YouTube Prayer Link

Choose a spouse and family life

The Bible contains many guidelines and teachings about choosing a spouse and family life. These guidelines can be found primarily in the Old and New Testaments, and here are some important Bible verses and principles:

Purpose of Marriage: The Bible teaches that marriage is a sacred covenant with the purpose of building a united relationship and growing and supporting one another in that relationship. In Genesis 2:24 it says, "Therefore a man will leave his parents and be united with his wife, and they will become one flesh." "

Principles and lessons from the Old Testament:

Christians should marry believers: Many in the Old Testament warned Israelites not to marry Gentiles, as this could lead them to idolatry or distance themselves from the true God. This shows that consistency of faith is important when choosing a spouse. For example, Exodus 34:16 warns, "Let your sons marry their daughters, and their daughters follow their God, and do adultery, that you may do the things before the Lord your God, and that you may have the opportunity to sin." "

Love and Respect: The Old Testament also contains the teachings of love and respect. For example, Leviticus 19:18 teaches people to love their neighbors, and this principle can also be applied to family life, requiring loving and respectful treatment of spouses and children.

The Importance of Family: The Old Testament emphasized the value and importance of family. Psalm 128:3 says, "Your wife is in your inner chamber like a vine that bears fruit; Your children surround your table like olive trees." "

Parenting: The Old Testament also contains principles for how to educate children. Deuteronomy 6:7 teaches the Israelites to teach God's law to their children, and is a valuable guide for modern families.

While these principles of the Old Testament are less clear than the New Testament, they still provide basic moral and ethical guidance regarding choosing a spouse and starting a family. Believers can use these principles to guide their behavior and decisions in choosing their spouses and family life. However, it should also be noted that some of the Old Testament teachings and laws are time-specific and culturally contextual, and may therefore require careful consideration when applying to modern family life.

Criteria for Choosing a Spouse: The Bible encourages Christians to consider consistency of faith, character, and values when choosing a spouse. First Corinthians 6:14 says, "Do not join with unbelievers, for what can righteousness and unrighteousness have in communion?" "

Love and Obedience: Ephesians 5:22-33 describes the model of marriage in detail, emphasizing that husbands should love their wives, wives should submit to their husbands, and marriage should be based on the love of Christ.

Responsible: The Bible requires husbands to take responsibility for leadership and care for the family and encourages wives to support their husband's leadership. First Timothy 5:8 says, "If a man does not take care of his relatives, he has broken the faith, and is worse than an unbeliever." "

Parenting: Ephesians 6:4 teaches parents to educate their children and guide them with biblical principles. This helps to build a healthy family life.

Patience and forgiveness: In marriage, patience and forgiveness are crucial. First Corinthians 13 emphasizes the importance of love, including patience and forgiveness.

Preserve purity: The Bible encourages purity in marriage and condemns adultery and fornication. Hebrews 13:4 says, "Marriage should be honored in every way, and the bed should not be defiled, for God will judge those who commit sexual immorality and those who commit adultery." "

These verses and principles provide basic guidance on choosing a spouse and family life, but the actual situation may vary from individual to individual and cultural differences. Faith and prayer are also important elements in making these critical decisions to seek God's wisdom and guidance. Above all, the Bible teaches us to treat our spouses with love and respect, building strong and lasting family relationships.

Let us pray together

Dear Heavenly Father,

We are here to thank you for the precious gift of life and family. We pray that you will give us more love and respect, and that our families will be hotbeds of love, filled with warmth and understanding. Help us learn to respect each other, tolerate each other, and see our spouses and

children with loving eyes. May our family be a harmonious place in which your love will always flow.

We thank you for highlighting the importance of the family, and may we understand this truth and rely on it. Help us to cherish our families and see them as your blessings and missions. Help us keep our family a priority and provide love and support to our family in this busy world.

Help us make informed decisions about the criteria for choosing a spouse. Help us consider alignment of faith, character, and values to ensure our marriage is built on a solid foundation. Let us seek your wisdom to choose a true life partner and be guided by you to build a lasting marriage.

We ask for your help and wisdom to raise our children. May we be their guides and role models, teaching them honesty, love and responsibility. Let our family be a place where faith and good values are nurtured, and our children thrive in your light.

Thank you for listening to our prayers.

Praying in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

Leviticus chapter 21

Le. 21:1 The LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: ‘A priest must not make himself ceremonially unclean for any of his people who die,

Le. 21:2 except for a close relative, such as his mother or father, his son or daughter, his brother,

Le. 21:3 or an unmarried sister who is dependent on him since she has no husband — for her he may make himself unclean.

Le. 21:4 He must not make himself unclean for people related to him by marriage, [Or unclean as a leader among his people] and so defile himself.

Le. 21:5 ““Priests must not shave their heads or shave off the edges of their beards or cut their bodies.

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Le. 21:6 They must be holy to their God and must not profane the name of their God. Because they present the offerings made

to the LORD by fire, the food of their God, they are to be holy.

Le. 21:7 ““They must not marry women defiled by prostitution or divorced from their husbands, because priests are holy to their God.

Le. 21:8 Regard them as holy, because they offer up the food of your God. Consider them holy, because I the LORD am holy — I who make you holy. [Or who sanctify you; or who set you apart as holy]

Le. 21:9 ““If a priest’s daughter defiles herself by becoming a prostitute, she disgraces her father; she must be burned in the fire.

Le. 21:10 ““The high priest, the one among his brothers who has had the anointing oil poured on his head and who has been ordained to wear the priestly garments, must not let his hair become unkempt [Or not uncover his head] or tear his clothes.

Le. 21:11 He must not enter a place where there is a dead body. He must not make himself unclean, even for his father or mother,

Le. 21:12 nor leave the sanctuary of his God or desecrate it, because he has been dedicated by the anointing oil of his God. I am the LORD.

Le. 21:13 ““The woman he marries must be a virgin.

Le. 21:14 He must not marry a widow, a divorced woman, or a woman defiled by prostitution, but only a virgin from his own people,

Le. 21:15 so that he will not defile his offspring among his people. I am the LORD, who makes him holy.” [Or who sanctifies him; or who sets him apart as holy]

Le. 21:16 The LORD said to Moses,

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Le. 21:17 “Say to Aaron: ‘For the generations to come none of your descendants who has a defect may come near to offer the food of his God.

Le. 21:18 No man who has any defect may come near: no man who is blind or lame, disfigured or deformed;

Le. 21:19 no man with a crippled foot or hand,

Le. 21:20 or who is hunchbacked or dwarfed, or who has any eye defect, or who has festering or running sores or damaged testicles.

Le. 21:21 No descendant of Aaron the priest who has any defect is to come near to present the offerings made to the LORD by fire.

He has a defect; he must not come near to offer the food of his God.

Le. 21:22 He may eat the most holy food of his God, as well as the holy food;

Le. 21:23 yet because of his defect, he must not go near the curtain or approach the altar, and so desecrate my sanctuary. I am the LORD, who makes them holy.” [Or who sanctifies them; or who sets them apart as holy]

Le. 21:24 So Moses told this to Aaron and his sons and to all the Israelites.

Chapter 21 of Leviticus in the Bible outlines the requirements for the priests, who were responsible for performing the sacrifices and other religious rituals on behalf of the people. The chapter emphasizes the importance of maintaining a high standard of holiness and purity among the priests, who were required to be without blemish or defect.

The chapter also establishes certain physical requirements for the priests, including that they should not be blind, lame, or disfigured. The priests were also required to refrain from contact with the dead, except in the case of immediate family members.

The chapter goes on to outline the restrictions on the marriage of the priests. They were not allowed to marry a prostitute or a divorced woman, and were also forbidden from marrying a woman who was not a virgin.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing the importance of maintaining the holiness of the priesthood, and the consequences of violating the laws and regulations set forth in the chapter. Overall, the chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of maintaining purity and holiness in all aspects of life, especially for those who serve as religious leaders.

The key verses in chapter 21 in the book of Leviticus in christian bible

Here are some key verses in chapter 21 of the book of Leviticus:

1. "And the Lord said to Moses, 'Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: "None shall defile himself for the dead among his people, except for his relatives who are nearest to him: his mother, his father, his son, his daughter, and his brother."' (Leviticus 21:1-2)

This verse outlines the restrictions on the priestly class in relation to death and mourning, allowing them to defile themselves only for close relatives.

2. "They shall be holy to their God and not profane the name of their God, for they offer the offerings of the Lord made by fire, and the bread of their God; therefore they shall be holy." (Leviticus 21:6)

This verse emphasizes the holiness and sanctity required of the priestly class, as they are responsible for offering sacrifices and representing God to the people.

3. "No man of the descendants of Aaron the priest, who has a defect, shall come near to offer the offerings made by fire to the Lord. He has a defect; he shall not come near to offer the bread of his God." (Leviticus 21:21)

This verse prohibits priests with physical defects or deformities from performing the duties of the priesthood, as they are considered unfit to offer sacrifices to God.

4. "So they shall not profane the holy offerings of the children of Israel, which they offer to the Lord, or allow them to bear the guilt of trespass when they eat their holy offerings; for I the Lord sanctify them." (Leviticus 21:22)

This verse emphasizes the responsibility of the priests to protect the sanctity of the offerings and to ensure that the people do not unknowingly bear the guilt of eating profane or tainted offerings.

5. "He shall take a wife in her virginity. A widow or a divorced woman or a defiled woman or a harlot - these he shall not marry; but he shall take a virgin of his own people as wife." (Leviticus 21:13-14)

This verse outlines the requirements for a priest's wife, emphasizing the need for her to be pure and undefiled.

Chapter 21 of the Book of Leviticus in the Bible provides specific regulations and instructions for the priests regarding their conduct and qualifications for serving in the tabernacle or temple. Here is a reflection on the key themes and lessons found in Leviticus chapter 21:

The Call to Holiness: Leviticus 21 emphasizes the importance of holiness and purity among the priests who serve in the sanctuary. It outlines various physical and ceremonial restrictions placed on the priests, such as avoiding contact with corpses and refraining from certain mourning practices.

Reflection: This chapter reminds us of the significance of holiness in the service of God. It teaches us that those who minister in the sanctuary are called to set themselves apart and maintain a higher standard of purity. It challenges us to recognize the importance of living a life of holiness and consecration, not only for priests but for all believers. It prompts us to pursue righteousness, avoiding behaviors and influences that can hinder our relationship with God.

Physical Defects and Qualifications: Leviticus 21 outlines specific physical defects or blemishes that disqualify a priest from serving in certain priestly duties. It highlights the need for physical perfection and cleanliness in the service of God.

Reflection: The emphasis on physical qualifications highlights the importance of offering God our best. It reminds us that God deserves our utmost dedication and commitment. While physical perfection is not a requirement in our relationship with God today, this chapter encourages us to present ourselves to God with a heart and attitude of readiness and devotion. It challenges us to offer our whole being to God, seeking to honor Him in all that we do.

Responsibilities and Restrictions: Leviticus 21 provides instructions on the relationships and behavior of the priests, including restrictions on whom they can marry and how they are to conduct themselves.

Reflection: The instructions and restrictions placed on the priests remind us of the importance of maintaining proper relationships and conduct in our service to God. It teaches us that our actions and choices can impact our ability to effectively serve God and represent Him to others. It challenges us to consider our relationships, seeking to cultivate healthy and godly connections. It prompts us to live with integrity and honor, ensuring that our behavior aligns with our calling as children of God.

Reflection of God's Character: Leviticus 21 highlights that the priests are to reflect God's character and represent Him before the people. Their conduct and holiness are meant to demonstrate God's sanctity and set Him apart as the Holy One.

Reflection: This chapter reminds us of our role as representatives of God in the world. It challenges us to strive for moral and spiritual excellence, reflecting God's character in our words, actions, and attitudes. It prompts us to consider how our conduct reflects on our faith and invites others to encounter the holiness of God.

In summary, Leviticus chapter 21 focuses on the themes of holiness, physical qualifications, responsibilities and restrictions, and reflecting God's character. It reminds us of the importance of pursuing holiness and consecration in our service to God. It challenges us to present ourselves to God with a heart of devotion and readiness. It prompts us to live with integrity, maintaining proper relationships and conduct. Ultimately, it encourages us to reflect God's character in our lives, demonstrating His holiness to the world around us.