

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Ephesians 6:1-4**.
- B. Many times you have heard that the family is in trouble in this country. But many times we are not very specific about what is really going on.
- C. Tonight's lesson hopes to identify six tragedies going on in the family today. May this sermon be a word of warning.

## I. THINGS NOT COVERED.

- A. There are some things that hurt families that I am going to mention but not elaborate on.
- B. Some problems:
  - 1. Alcoholism.
  - 2. Domestic violence.
  - 3. Child abuse.
  - 4. Drug abuse.
  - 5. Racially mixed marriages.
  - 6. Impoverished families.
  - 7. Families started too soon.
- C. We have resources in the F.R.C. to deal with these problems. Those who need special guidance need to make themselves available to these materials.

## II. SIX TRAGEDIES.

- A. One, the economic function.  
This has been taken over by industry, business, and the city. Families used to be large and especially in an agricultural setting, the children worked and were an economical asset.
- B. Two, protection.  
At one time families provided their own security and protected themselves and their neighbors. This function has now been turned over to the police.
- C. Three, status giving.  
It used to be that status resulted from a good name. Today it is based on material things such as money, cars, and homes.
- D. Four, religious and moral training.  
The family Bible study has been turned over to the church and the Sunday school program (Eph. 6:1-4).
- E. Five, education.  
Most of it has been turned over to the public schools. Girl's used to learn to cook in their mothers kitchen; she now learns in home economics. What about those who learned it in neither!
- F. Six, recreation.  
It seems there is very little time anymore to have an all family evening at home. The evening at now is consumed by T.V., a rental movie, computer, etc., and quality time is not spent by families just talking.
- G. Seven, (this one not a tragedy) affection.  
God made us to love each other. Affection, love and appreciation in the family will endure and help keep families strong despite problems elsewhere. A

## CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. May we always strive to work on those things that will improve our family life.
- B. May we put into practice the teachings about families as found in Eph 5:22-33 and 6.1-4.
- C. May we work ever so hard to keep the problems mentioned from becoming problems
- D. May the members of this congregation use the FRC. Much time, effort and energy has been put into this great work and we are guilty of negligence if we don't use it.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.