

FAMILY COMMANDMENTS

Unbiblical

1. MONEY

- Money is the best source of security.
- The more money you have, the more important you are.
- Make lots of money to prove you “made” it.

2. CONFLICT

- Avoid conflict at all costs.
- Don't get people mad at you.
- Loud, angry, constant fighting is normal.

3. SEX

- Sex is not to be spoken about openly.
- Men can be promiscuous; women must be chaste.

4. GRIEF AND LOSS

- Sadness is a sign of weakness.
- You are not allowed to be depressed.
- Get over losses quickly and move on.

5. EXPRESSING ANGER

- Anger is dangerous and bad.
- Explode in anger to make a point.
- Sarcasm is an acceptable way to release anger.

6. FAMILY

- You owe your parents for all they've done for you.
- Don't speak of your family's “dirty laundry” in public.
- Duty to family and culture comes before everything.

Biblical

1. MONEY

- Remember you are a steward of God's money. It belongs to him.
- Be generous as God enables you.
- Live within your means and do not go into unnecessary debt.

2. CONFLICT

- Do not avoid conflict; learn to negotiate differences.
- Allow God to mature you through conflicts.
- Eliminate dirty fighting tactics (e.g. attack, blame, passive-aggressiveness, appeasement).

3. SEX

- Receive your sexuality, maleness or femaleness, as a beautiful gift from God.
- Preserve the preciousness of sexual intimacy for the covenant of marriage.
- Do not use people or let yourself be used.

4. GRIEF AND LOSS

- Our griefs and losses are important to God.
- Pay attention and wait on him in our losses.
- Grieving our losses, instead of ignoring them, leads to maturity and compassion.

5. EXPRESSING ANGER

- Explore the hurts and fears behind anger.
- Do not stuff or project anger, but use it to assert yourself.
- Do not let the sun go down on your anger.

6. FAMILY

- Thank God for sovereignly placing you in your family of origin.
- Leave the sinful patterns of your family, country, and culture.
- Learn to “do life” differently in the family of Jesus.

Unbiblical

7. RELATIONSHIPS

- Don't trust people. They will let you down.
- Don't ever let anyone hurt you.
- Don't show vulnerability.

8. ATTITUDES TOWARD OTHER CULTURES

- Only be close friends with people who are like you.
- Do not marry a person of another race or culture.
- Certain cultures/races are not as good as ours.

9. SUCCESS

- Is getting into the "best schools."
- Is making lots of money.
- Is getting married and having children.

10. FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS

- You are not allowed to have certain feelings.
- Your feelings are not important.
- Reacting with your feelings without thinking is okay

Biblical

7. RELATIONSHIPS

- Repair ruptured relationships as much as possible.
- Respect each person's individuality for healthy togetherness.
- Receive God's love in order to give love to others.

8. ATTITUDES TOWARD OTHER CULTURES

- No one is inferior or superior in God's family.
- Each culture offers a redemptive gift to the world.
- Racisms, ethnocentrism, classism and sexism do not belong in God's family.

9. SUCCESS

- Become the person God intends and do his will.
- Learn from your failures.
- Live in brokenness, depending upon God.

10. FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS

- Pay attention to your emotions as a gift from God.
- Prayerfully and carefully think about your feelings before you act on them.
- Experience your emotions in order to love others well.

