

In the *U.S. News and World Report*, there is an article on "Why Teen-agers Go Wrong." Divorce is high on that list, and it is reported that one-half of all the adult criminals begin as juvenile delinquents, and most juvenile delinquents come from broken homes. Let people who are considering divorce pause and consider possible consequences.

But let us think of some positive aspects of this subject. I should like for the next minute to talk to the young people who may be listening in: to tell them that though this enemy is extant, and though they must meet situations where they must face and overcome difficulties, they can train and prepare themselves for this glorious experience with the same promise of success as awaits the well-trained and disciplined person in any field of activity. Marriage is life at work.

I speak, first, of love. I am not thinking of that flutter of the heart or the droop of the eyelash which you young folks may identify as such, that may well be the beginning of love, but I am thinking of the love that "suffereth long and is kind, that envieth not, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; the love that beareth all things, endureth all things, the love that never faileth." (See I Cor. 13.) And I remind you that the Master who loved most of all, endured the most and proved his love by his endurance. Yes, "there is beauty all around, when there's love at home."

I speak next of prayer. The husband, who will kneel every day in the home and thank God for his wife and list her virtues in his supplication to be entered on the credit side of the family ledger will overlook or be unmindful of her little weaknesses—he will never seek the divorce courts. The woman who kneels with her children in the

home and humbly thanks God for a kind, loving, and wonderful father and husband, even though at times that prayer may be only a wish, it still will impress upon the souls of the children an image and hold before them an ideal which they will try to realize in themselves. Quoting Sister Benson on the TV program recently, "The family that prays together stays together."

Young people of the Church, read the seventy-sixth section of the Doctrine and Covenants. Here is the prize which you may earn and enjoy, with God's help. You who have been baptized and receive the holy Spirit, you who have testimonies of Jesus, who keep the commandments and overcome by faith, and are sealed by the holy Spirit of promise, shall become priests and kings of the Most High and dwell in the presence of God and Jesus Christ forever and ever.

Your bodies shall become celestial whose glory is that of the sun. You shall have joy in your posterity here, eternal family union and association hereafter, immortality, eternal life, and eternal increase.

God help us that we may put on the whole armor of God, having our loins girt about with truth, and having the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the sword of the spirit, and go forward in the fear of God and protect our homes. Yes, to your tents, or homes, O Israel, lengthen the silken cords of love and strengthen the stakes of faith and righteousness to the glory of God and our own salvation in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

Elder Hugh B. Brown, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve, has just spoken to us.

Elder Mark E. Petersen of the Council of the Twelve will be our concluding speaker.

ELDER MARK E. PETERSEN

Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles

AS A POSTSCRIPT to these stirring things which we have heard this morning, may I say that in my humble opinion, one of the foundation stones

of success in the home is companionship in the home, and that companionship must begin with husband and wife.

Friday, October 1

First Day

You remember that you started out with your courtship on a basis of companionship. You husbands remember when you courted your wives that you did all you could to be enjoyable companions to them; you took them out, showed them a good time, paid them compliments. You never thought of criticizing them or embarrassing them because that would never win a fair lady, but you put your own best foot forward always, and you did all you could to convince that young lady that association with you would provide for her a loving, wholesome, desirable companionship.

You ladies remember how you responded, and then together you decided that you would be married because you desired to have that type of companionship perpetuated throughout your lives.

Where is that companionship now? Are you, as husbands and wives, real companions today? Do you have fun together? Do you ever go out together and really have a good time? Do you work together? Do you worship God together? Do you maintain that high respect for each other that you once had, remembering that there can be no real love at home unless there is respect for each other, and that there is precious little respect unless we are respectable?

The Lord had something to say about companionship in the home. He gave a great commandment in section 42 of the Doctrine and Covenants, verse 22, and this is what he said:

Thou shalt love thy wife with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto her and none else.

I believe, ladies, that that commandment is just as applicable to you, and that you could receive it as though it said: "Thou shalt love thy husband with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto him and none else." And when the Lord commands that husband and wife love each other with all their hearts, it means that it shall be a whole-hearted love, and that there shall be no holding back and no reservations. Then the second part of that command, to "cleave unto her," I believe means that we shall be good compan-

ions, one to the other. I believe that when the Lord says that we shall cleave unto husband and wife, that he means that we shall be enjoyable, desirable, happy, loving companions one with the other.

Then there is that very potent last portion, "and none else," which rules out all types of competition. Any married man who pays attention to any woman other than his wife, to that extent is in rebellion against Almighty God, and any woman who is married and receives attention from any other man is flying in the face of Providence and violating the law of heaven.

Now, if you have broken this law, what is the answer? President Stephen L. Richards gave it to you yesterday in the Relief Society conference. What is the answer to any broken law? If you break the law of the Sabbath, is the answer further violation? If you break the law of chastity, is the answer further violation? There is only one answer to a broken law, and that is repentance, and if you have broken the law which says, "Thou shalt love thy wife with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto her and none else," is the answer divorce, or is it repentance with a broken heart and a contrite spirit?

There is another type of companionship in the home which is so fundamental to love at home, and that is companionship between parents and children. I am sure that many of you parents do not realize the gravity of the temptations which face your young people. There are sins in which your young people become involved that many of you parents do not even dream about, but they are terrible things which will drag them down into the depths of hell if they yield to them, and will break your hearts, as parents. Companionship between parents and children will provide a fortification against those temptations and may save them.

You fathers, are you willing to be companions to your sons? Oh, they need you, and they plead for you. Would each father be willing to spend one hour a day with his son if he knew that the boy's very salvation depended upon it? Oh, I know there are many of you who will say you do not have time.

I know that some of you will say that business is too demanding and you cannot spare the time from your job and your other exacting assignments, but I would like to tell you that there is not a job in the world as important to you as your son. If you are so busy that you cannot be a companion to your son so that you can help to save his soul, you are too busy, and you need to readjust. If you will be a companion to him, and if you will keep the standards of the Church, and in that companionship teach those standards to your son, as that boy watches you observe those high principles, he will have respect both for you and those principles and will be converted to them, and thereby you will place him on the high road to salvation.

You mothers, teach your daughters by means of companionship also. A couple of weeks ago when I was coming home on the train, there was in the same car with me a young mother and her two little girls. It was a long ride, and these little girls were tired and peevish. This mother was one of those strict disciplinarians who apparently knew nothing but discipline. I am sure that with that stern face, if she had ever smiled it would have cracked her face all over, she was so rigid and so stern. She gave those children a very bad time, and they gave her a bad time, and a bad time was had by all.

Then, as I went into the next car on my way to the diner, I noticed another mother and her two little girls. There was none of the atmosphere of what I have just described to you. There was happiness and laughter and joy because on the same train and over the same long journey this second mother was playing with her little daughters. She was a playmate, a pal, to them. I noticed that in the midst of the game one of the little girls came up and hugged her mother, and said, "Mother, I love you so much." Then she went back to play her game again.

I thought, what a pattern for all mothers. If mothers would just be companions, beginning when the children are small, what a marvelous influence they could have. And mothers, as they grow up, do not change the recipe. Continue to be companions to them, and

as you give them that companionship, they will love you; they will honor you; they will seek your advice. Even when they have grown up, you will see that from time to time in the midst of their games or their worries, they will come to you and put their arms about you and say, "Mother, I love you."

Love at home comes through proper companionship. Husband and wife may be kept together through it. Mother and father can save their sons and their daughters by proper companionship, and that they will, I humbly pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

He to whom we have just listened is Elder Mark E. Petersen of the Council of the Twelve.

The messages and calls that have come to us will be broadcast at the close of this session and of each general session without further notice. Will you please listen carefully to these announcements. They will be given over the public address system on the grounds.

The music for this session as has already been announced, has been furnished by the Relief Society Singing Mothers from Salt Lake, Cache Valley, and Southern Idaho areas, conducted by Sister Florence Jepperson Madsen. Elder Frank W. Asper is at the organ.

The Relief Society Singing Mothers will now favor us with, "If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments."

The closing prayer will be offered by Elder Vinal G. Mauss, formerly president of the Japanese Mission, after which this Conference will stand adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

"If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments," will now be sung by the Singing Mothers.

The Relief Society Singing Mothers sang a selection, "If Ye Love Me Keep My Commandments."

The closing prayer was offered by Elder Vinal G. Mauss, formerly President of the Japanese Mission.

Conference adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m.