



# NewsLetter

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## Building a Strong Blended Family on Biblical Principles

Blended families, also known as stepfamilies face unique challenges as they navigate relationships, family dynamics, and build a new household. The Bible offers wisdom and principles that can guide blended families toward unity, love, and respect. Here are biblical principles that can support and strengthen a blended family:

### 1. Love as the Foundation

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.” – 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Love is the cornerstone of every Christian relationship, including the blended family. This love is patient and kind, not only between spouses but also between stepparents, stepchildren, and extended family members. Blending families is challenging, but love requires an intentional commitment to patience, forgiveness, and kindness.

### 2. Commitment to Unity and Peace

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” – Matthew 5:9

Blended families often come together with different backgrounds, traditions, and dynamics. God calls His people to be peacemakers, and this includes promoting unity in the home. Peacemaking can mean listening openly, respecting each other’s feelings, and working through differences without resentment or blame. The goal should be a harmonious family environment that reflects the peace of Christ.

### 3. Embrace Forgiveness

“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” – Colossians 3:13

In a blended family, old wounds may resurface, and mistakes will be made. Embracing a posture of forgiveness helps family members move forward without allowing past hurts to create new ones. Forgiveness allows individuals to set aside grudges and bitterness, leading the family to a healthier,

more Christ-centered bond.

### 4. Honor and Respect for All Members

“Honor one another above yourselves.” – Romans 12:10

Each family member has unique feelings, perspectives, and needs, and honoring each one’s presence, experiences, and contributions can help build a loving home environment. This principle is especially important for children who may be dealing with loyalty conflicts or feelings of confusion. When everyone feels respected and valued, it nurtures a sense of belonging.

### 5. Parenting with Consistency and Unity

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

Stepparents should work together to create a consistent approach to discipline, love, and guidance. Blended families benefit from creating shared goals and values for raising children, focusing on developing character and faith. By working as a team, stepparents demonstrate a commitment to guiding each child toward a life centered on biblical principles.

### 6. Set Healthy Boundaries

“Let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’” – Matthew 5:37

Boundaries provide security and predictability, which is especially helpful in a blended family. Establishing clear boundaries around communication, rules, and respect can help create an environment where family members feel safe and understand what is expected of them. Healthy boundaries also help parents balance relationships with children, ex-spouses, and extended family.

### 7. Prayer as a Family Priority

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” – Colossians 4:2

Prayer is a powerful tool for blended families, bringing them closer to God and each other. Praying together invites God into the family’s challenges, helps each member seek His guidance, and reminds them that they are not alone. It’s a reminder of dependence on God’s grace, wisdom, and strength.

### 8. Extend Grace and Understanding

“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” – Colossians 4:6

Extending grace means allowing space for imperfections. Blended families often involve differing perspectives, emotional baggage, and misunderstandings. Grace means giving family members the benefit of the doubt, being quick to listen, and slow to anger. This understanding can prevent resentment and foster an environment of empathy and support.

Blending a family isn’t easy, but biblical principles provide guidance to navigate the challenges with love, patience, and wisdom. Relying on God’s strength, extending forgiveness, and prioritizing unity can transform a blended family into one that thrives on love, respect, and mutual support. With a foundation rooted in Christ, blended families can flourish, reflecting God’s love in every relationship.