

Going Home

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Introduction: What does “going home” mean to you?

- A. There are times I dream that I am in my childhood home again!
 - 1. These thoughts become more precious when there is no home to return to.
 - 2. The overriding emotion of these times is the Love and security that I knew during these days. **(Eph 5:28, Titus 2:4)**
- B. God has made us with this need to be in a place where we can be loved.
 - 1. It is in this kind of place where correction can be given and received!
 - 2. What is “home” for you?

I. What “going home” means to a child.

A. Security (2 Cor 12:14)

- 1. There were times of great financial difficulty for my family. As a child I never worried about these things! **(Mt 6:25-26)**
- 2. There was also a security in knowing they were there. How often did I call out at night for “mama!”?

B. Learning (Prov 1:8, 10, 15; 2:1)

- 1. As a child my parents could do no wrong. Later they would have to explain to me some examples not to follow. (Ex. Smoking)
- 2. I still hear my parents voices in so many things. They took the time!
- 3. In that learning there was correction. **(Heb 12:9-11)**

C. Nourishment.

- 1. I often remember “going home” when I smell certain foods.
- 2. The special times where a cake was made or I helped in making fudge are recalled.
- 3. In all of this there was the family meal where we could talk and learn.

D. Fulfillment.

- 1. I was happy to be “going home” after a hard day at school and practice.
- 2. I was with people who really cared what happened to you!
- 3. Sadly there are many today who do not know this kind of home.
- 4. You are fortunate if you can still visit home (Ex. Bear Bryant – “I sure wished I could call mine!”)

II. What “going home” means to an adult.

A. Responsibility

- 1. We recognize that we are builders and not just takers. **(Eph 5:23, 1 Tim 5:14)**
- 2. We want to give our best here. Poor quality is not acceptable!
- 3. Some want to live in their childhood when they start a home.

B. Learning

- 1. Only a foolish man enters marriage with a stubborn pride! There is much to learn and the learning never stops.

“Sometimes the trouble with being a parent is that by the time you're experienced you're usually unemployed.”

- 2. In this humility we can provide for the real needs of our home. **(1 Cor 8:2)**

3. Some of the greatest teaching we can do for our children is to say “I am sorry, I have done what was wrong.”

C. Fulfillment

1. The husband finds the respect he so badly needs. (**Eph 5:33**)
2. The wife finds the love she so dearly needs. (**Eph 5:25, 28**)
3. Our strength should come from our homes! (Ex. Home salesman and Dad.)
4. There is a great danger when we find fulfillment elsewhere.
5. When I am away on a gospel meeting I have pictures of home, they remind me of where I want to be.

III. What “going home” means to a Christian.

A. The people of God

1. We are described as the house or family of God. (**1 Tim 3:15, Heb 10:19-21**)
2. God is to dwell in us. (**1 Cor 6:19-20**)
3. Our life is a walk with God! (**1 Pet 3:12-13**)

B. A place to grow in the Lord

1. We are to have a close and loving relationship. (**1 Cor 12:22-27**)
2. We expect to be corrected in love. (**Eph 4:15-16; 1 Tim 4:2-4**)
3. We need the association outside the services to really know and help each other.
4. When people withdraw to a select few they are making a certain kind of “home.”

C. Fulfillment

1. We should really want to be with the people of God! (**Heb 10:22-25**)
2. If we do not have any of the previous two homes, we can have the greater blessing of God and His people. (**Mk 10:29-30**)
3. I now have family in many places and I miss them. My riches blessing in life have been with the people of God!

IV. Our ultimate time of “going home” - heaven.

A. A place of lifted burdens

1. There will be no more tears or worries. (**Rev 21:4**)
2. We now will have a true rest and fulfillment. (**Heb 4:8-11**)

B. A place of joyous worship

1. We should all know the joy of true worship! (**Jn 4:23-24**)
2. It will involve the true fulfillment of our existence in a praise of God. (**Rev 5:9-13**)

C. A place of a great reunion

1. Do you have a loved one who dies with a real hope of heaven? You are blessed.
2. It is sad to see one die and leave their family with little hope. (**1 Thess 4:13**)
3. We will see Jesus! (**Phil 3:20-21**)

D. A place to long for

1. We should think about this till we long for the day. (**Phil 1:21-13**)
2. One day we can really go home forever!

Conclusion: Do you have a home to go to? (Lk 16:9-10)

A. Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Are you ready?

B. There is a weariness until we find this ultimate rest. But we will not stop until we reach home. (**Heb 10:36-39**)