



importantly, research indicates that simply becoming educated about relationships and how to maintain them increases one's chances of experiencing a successful marriage. It is because of the lack of knowledge that the people perish.

The third level on which a generational curse is maintained is on the supernatural level. In Exodus 20:5 (Amplified), the scripture states, *"You shall not bow down yourself to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me."* Then Ezekiel 18: 2 (Amplified) also states, *"The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?"* In the Old Testament, Israel rebelled against God repeatedly, which resulted in curses for many generations. When we rebel against the will of God, it is as though we hate Him. As a result, we become cursed and are left open to attacks by satan, our adversary. Just as there are consequences for disobeying or breaking natural laws, the same is true when we disobey the commandments of our God. However, obedience is far better than sacrifice.

First of all, one must have a true understanding of what a generational curse is in order to destroy it. Secondly, one needs to take an inventory of negative thoughts, belief systems, and behaviors within his family of origin. If possible, one should research several generations before him. Thirdly, one must determine if any of those negative patterns are evident in his life. Fourthly, one must change his behavior and make sure that his thoughts, emotions, and behaviors are in line with the Word of God. One may require extra help and may need individual, family, or marital counseling to aid him in the elimination of the negative thoughts responsible for causing

destructive behavioral patterns. Family counseling helps individuals to explore their family system and locate the origin of their destructive behavioral patterns. Individuals and their families who may require professional counseling must do the work to bring about change. Lastly, one must pray and ask God to give him the strength and the wisdom to defeat satan thus overcoming the generational curse. One must be willing to take the necessary steps to be victorious, because faith alone will not help one to overcome a generational curse. For we know that faith without works is dead.

Generational curses occur and operate simultaneously on three levels, which are the genetic, environmental, and supernatural levels. These curses and their strong holds can be broken by prayer, faith, and by replacing destructive and ungodly behaviors with more positive constructive behaviors. This is also possible through psychoeducation and the application of principles that help one to create and maintain successful relationships. Our Creator has given us the ability to choose blessings and curses. Will you choose life or death?

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