

Families Are Forever! Or Are They?

by Tal Davis

The Bible says marriage is an important human relationship.

“Families are forever! A message from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ...the Mormons.” Have you seen commercials that end with that statement? They are sponsored by one of the fastest growing religious groups in the world, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS). Its members are known as Mormons.

The LDS strongly emphasizes marriage and families. Mormon men and women are encouraged to get married and have children. LDS families gather weekly for “Family Home Evening” times of fun and study.

Christians are impressed by what seems to be the success of LDS family life. Many ask, “Why do they have such good and large families?” The answer to that question lies in several basic teachings of the Mormon church.

A Look at Mormon Families

The LDS teaches that families are forever. Mormon couples believe their marriages do not last just “until death do us part”; their marriages never end. They believe weddings performed in LDS temples will seal husbands and wives together even after death in a heavenly place called the “Celestial Kingdom.” There they will create and rule new earths with billions of children, just like our Heavenly Father (God) did with His wife. LDS temples (122 worldwide) are not local chapels, but buildings dedicated only for special ceremonies.

“Marriage in heaven? New earths? God’s wife? I’ve never heard anything like that in my church!” you say. That’s because no Bible-based church teaches those ideas. The Bible says marriage is an important human relationship; however, nowhere does it say that marriages last forever in heaven. In fact, Jesus said the exact opposite is true. Read Luke 20:34-35 in your Bible. More importantly, the Bible *never* says that God has a wife or that we will create new worlds.

“So where did they get those ideas?” you ask. Mormons believe their church’s founder, a man named Joseph Smith Jr., was a modern-day prophet who added new Scriptures to the Bible. The best known is *The Book of Mormon*. Two others are *The Doctrine and Covenants* and *The Pearl of Great Price*. Those books, not the Bible, are the sources of Mormon teachings.

Forever?

Families are forever? This contradicts what the Bible teaches. We will know and love each other in heaven, but men and women will not be married there. We do not look to self-proclaimed prophets or “new” Scriptures for the truth; we look to the Bible alone. Scripture says to trust Jesus for our salvation. If it is God’s plan for you to marry, trust Him to show you the right husband or wife He intends for you. 