



Removing the Villain's from your Home

Adapted from "Family Power" series by Wayne Murray

It is necessary to identify the things in our home that are trying to come against us and harm our family and homes. Harmful things can come into our homes that we can see and those are easy to detect and deal with them. However, it is the small, hidden things that are not dealt with that causes the most damage in our home and relationships. Read the following story from an unknown author to illustrate this.

The father listened to all the reasons his children gave for wanting to see a particular PG-13 movie. It had their favorite actors. Everyone else was seeing it. Even church members said it was great. It was only rated PG-13 because of the suggestion of sex--they never really showed it. The language was pretty good--the Lord's name was only used in vain three times in the whole movie.

The teens did admit there was a scene where a building and a bunch of people were blown up, but the violence was just the normal stuff. It wasn't too bad. And, even if there were a few minor things, the special effects were fabulous and the plot was action packed.

However, even with all the justifications the teens made for the PG-13 rating, the father still wouldn't give in. He didn't even give his children a satisfactory explanation for saying, "No." He just said, "No!"

A little later on that evening the father asked his teens if they would like some brownies he had baked. He explained that he'd taken the family's favorite recipe and added a little something new. The children asked what it was.

The father calmly replied that he had added dog poop. However, he quickly assured them, it was only a little bit. All other ingredients were gourmet quality and he had taken great care to bake the brownies at the precise temperature for the exact time. He was sure the brownies would be superb.

Even with their father's promise that the brownies were of almost perfect quality, the teens would not take any. The father acted surprised. After all, it was only one small part that was causing them to be so stubborn. He was certain they would hardly notice it. Still the teens held firm and would not try the brownies.

The father then told his children how the movie they wanted to see was just like the brownies. Our minds lead us into believing that just a little bit of evil won't

matter. But, the truth is even a little bit of poop makes the difference between a great treat and something disgusting and totally unacceptable.

The father went on to explain that even though the movie industry would have us believe that most of today's movies are acceptable fare for adults and youth, they are not.

Now, when this father's children want to see something that is of questionable material, the father merely asks them if they would like some of his special dog poop brownies. That closes the subject.¹

¹ Rich Deem, "Brownies with a Difference!," Evidence for God, Nov 24, 2006, <http://www.godandscience.org/doctrine/brownies.html> (accessed July 26, 2017).

COURAGE

C1: The Bible uses leprosy to illustrate the hidden things in our homes that can have a negative impact on our homes. When you think of the word leprosy what comes to your mind?

C2: In Leviticus, God required the priests to clean the leprosy out of houses. Write down what you think that means to you and for your house today.

C3: Read and answer the following questions.

1 Peter 1:16 (NLT) For the Scriptures say, “You must be holy because I am holy.”

- What does the word holy mean to you?

- How does a commitment to holiness affect your family relationships?

STRENGTH

S1: Read **Leviticus 14:33-53 (NLT)** and answer the following questions.

- What do these verses mean to you in your role as a husband and father?
- What are three things that God asked the priests to do?
- Notice in verse 37 the priest was to examine the house. Take the next seven days to walk around your house with a notepad. Ask the Holy Spirit to begin to reveal things in your home that are leprosy to your family and write them down.
- Sometimes we can get familiar with our atmosphere. Notice in verse 38 the infected house had to be shut up for seven days. Once you have written down your leprosy list, take the next seven days to separate yourself from your list. It could be in the form of a media fast, food fast, etc. How did you feel in the beginning of the separation? How did you feel after the seven days of separation?
- In verse 36, the priests were instructed to empty the house. It is clear from these verses if the priests found the source of the leprosy, they were to get rid of the source from their house. What steps will you take to rid your house of leprosy? Write down your plan and discuss with your family. What was their reaction?

ENDURANCE

E1: Read **Leviticus 14:33-53 (NLT)**. Three things the priests were to do if they found leprosy in the home. First, they were to examine the house. Second, they were to shut up the house for seven days. Third, they were to get rid of the source of the leprosy. Today, a few of the symptoms of leprosy would be:

- Strife in your home
- Inability to communicate
- Something is always wrong
- Anger and/or bitterness in a family member
- Callousness

What do you sense the Holy Spirit is saying to you about the things that should not be in your home?

E2: Read the following and answer the questions.

Deuteronomy 18:9-12 (NLT)

- What should a Christian's attitude toward occult practices be?

- Is the Holy Spirit asking you to get one of these forms of spiritual leprosy out of your home?

E3: Read the following and answer the questions.

Psalm 101:3 (NLT)

Luke 16:15 (NLT)

- What do you sense the Holy Spirit is saying to you in regard to music, TV, video games, internet, and all media?

- Who holds you accountable for your media intake?
- Does your spouse know your user name and passwords? If not, why not?

E4: Read the following and answer the questions.

John 10:10 (NLT)

- How does this effect your family relationships?
- How does violence affect family relationships?
- How does sexual promiscuity, perversion, and pornography affect family relationships?
- How does coarse language, swearing, and verbal pornography affect family relationships?
- How do occult toys, images, videos, etc. affect family relationships?