

# LIVING IN A BROKEN HOME<sup>1</sup>

(Some thoughts & suggestions)

1. **GOD MAKES NO MISTAKES – Psalm 139:13-16; Rom. 8:28 & Eph. 2:10.**  
*“God is too good to be unkind, and too wise to make mistakes;  
So when I cannot trace the hand of God, I can trust the heart of God.”*  
C. H. Spurgeon
2. **BEWARE OF HARBORING A BITTER SPIRIT AGAINST GOD – Isa. 45:9; Rom. 9:20-21**
3. **YOU’RE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR BEHAVIOR – 1 Cor. 10:13; 1 Tim. 4:7**
  - a) **You can’t lean on others – 2 Kings 20:20-21**
  - b) **You can’t blame others – 2 Kings 21:17-24**
4. **DON’T PLAY ONE PARENT OFF AGAINST THE OTHER ONE.**  
i.e. Blackmail system, etc. Don’t emphasize to one parent the “things” that the other parent buys for you. Learn to be content with basics – **1 Tim. 6:7-8**
5. **DON’T CRITICIZE ONE PARENT TO THE OTHER ONE – Eph. 5:12**
6. **DON’T BECOME A “SPY” FOR A PARENT.** e.g. questions from mom about what dad is doing & vice versa.
7. **YOU ARE TO RESPECT THEIR POSITION, EVEN WHEN YOU CAN’T RESPECT THEIR PERSON – Col. 3:20; Eph. 6:1-3**
8. **AVOID, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, LISTENING TO CRITICISM OF ONE PARENT BY THE OTHER.** There will probably be some jealousy, rivalry and bitterness between them.
9. **REALIZE THAT THE FACT THAT THEY COULDN’T GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.**

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<sup>1</sup> By Mike Edwards, Bible Baptist Church, Madison, Ohio, May 1982. Note: These are just some common-sense thoughts on the subject which I originally compiled many years ago for the youth in our church, as well as for use in “break out”/discussion sessions for young people attending a state-wide youth conference at the time. My parents divorced when I was eight years old, so I had some first-hand experience to draw on in regard to this particular subject.—mwe