

46. In cases where they decide to permanently separate, they're going to have to have the faith that they can make it on their own, with the Lord, of course, if that's really His Will. They can't just be following their own selfish desires, they have to have faith that the Lord will provide for them. The wife can't just expect that leadership is somehow going to give her a fulltime bread-winner. So such couples that permanently separate who have a lot of kids, are going to have to have a lot of faith that the Lord is going to supply & that they're not going to be a burden on others. If they have each other & they can make it together, then before they separate they are going to have to have a lot of faith that they can make it apart!—Without overburdening others.

47. Children need parents, & every child needs both a mother & a father if possible. So for the children's sake, our Family's sake & our witness & sample's sake, such cases must be handled very prayerfully, as some of these separations of large families have been a very poor testimony.

ARGUING IN FRONT OF CHILDREN!

48. If the parents are such terrible examples to their own children of constantly nagging, arguing, fighting & showing a real lack of love & consideration, in cases like that it's almost better that they separate & not be such a terrible example! In some cases the mother & father seem to be good to the children, but horrible to each other, so we almost have to decide which is the most important: To get rid of the bad sample or to keep the mother's & father's care there for the kids. It certainly seems that if parents in the Family really love their children, that they would be absolutely desperate to get the victory over such problems!—Or at least to keep them from being so open & so obvious that it will damage their kids!

49. My goodness, if you have the Lord, you can certainly do something to prevent such a terrible, terrible example being shown to your own children! Fighting & fussing & arguing all the time results in real insecurity for the poor kids. Even if they know the mother & the father love them, if they're afraid that the father & mother are going to split up all the time, or

they're afraid they're going to hit each other or hurt each other, they're not going to be too secure about anything!

OTHER PERTINENT POINTS!

50. Another point regarding the children is that if the parents are going to separate, even a temporary 3-month separation, they need to make sure to wisely & lovingly give some kind of explanation to the children. They could tell them something like, "Well, just like you kids get spankings sometimes when you're bad & you have lessons to learn, Mommy & Daddy have some lessons to learn now too. So we're going to be apart for awhile so we can get closer to the Lord & seek Him & His Will & learn the lessons He wants to teach us.—And then, Lord willing, we will be back together again in just a few months."—Or whatever the case is. They owe it to their children to somehow explain it to them & not just to be silent about it & act like nothing's happened, which will just confuse the poor kids.

51. Another point worth mentioning has to do with those who are having a temporary separation because they were putting each other before the Lord & His Work: If an overly romantic relationship is what caused their problems in the first place, they should be cautioned not to go out & immediately start another big love relationship with someone else! If they get all romantically involved right away in another relationship, they may wind up right back in the same problem that they just came out of!—So why suggest they separate or even allow them to separate if they're going to jump right back into the same kind of situation that was holding them back & causing them trouble in the first place? If their problem is serious enough to warrant a separation, they should use their time apart to concentrate on the Lord & to renew their relationship with Him, & not seek out another human relationship in which they'll get all entangled again!

52. Something else to be aware of is that when two people do have to split up, but they still love each other, or even if one of them is still in love with the other, it's really difficult for them if they have to stay together in the same Home or the same situ-