

36. If someone doesn't want to live with you, you ought to have enough love for them that you're not going to try to force them to stay with you, right? Who wants somebody to stay with them that doesn't want to be with them? It reminds me of a fellow I saw in a movie once, he said the most loving thing he ever did for his wife was to let her go, because he knew that's what she wanted to do.

### REVIEW OF THE SEPARATION CATEGORIES!

37. Let's review what we've covered so far: Basically we've got three categories of situations that warrant separations. The first & most common is the category of the couple that brings it up themselves, it's their own idea that they want to separate. Either both of them or one of them wants to separate.

38. The second category are those that have a serious open problem, such as loud arguing, screaming or even physical violence, & leadership simply needs to go in & say, "This is enough, you separate or get out of the Family!"

39. And the third category, which as I said, would be just a very small amount of cases, is where leadership definitely sees that people for some reason or another are mismatched, or they could do much more for the Lord if they were separated than being together, even though they might not even seem to have any big open problems.

### GETTING BACK TOGETHER!

40. For whatever reason they were originally separated, if both parties want to get back together again, then I don't think anybody should try to stop them, even in those cases where they were separated because they were screaming or being violent with each other. I think we have to take it in good faith if they want to get back together that they're not going to do it again. But if they do, the first time they do it again we will probably just have to separate them permanently!

41. But I don't think we can do this sort of thing too often. People can't just go back & forth, back & forth, back & forth &

separate for 3 months, get back together for 3 months, separate for another 3 months etc. etc.! It's simply too much trouble for everybody. They're going to have to make up their minds permanently whether they want to stay apart or get together & stay together!

42. I think it should be the couple's responsibility themselves to get back together when their 3 months is up, they're the ones that should fight for it. If they want to get back together they should say, "Listen, LAS, DAS, NAS, whoever you are, our 3 months is up & we're going to get back together unless we hear from you otherwise!" They shouldn't write a letter & say, "Our 3 months is up, can we get back together?" If they both want to get back together, then they should simply notify their leadership that that's what they're planning on doing unless they hear otherwise.

### WHEN COUPLES DON'T WANT TO GET BACK TOGETHER!

43. What happens if after their temporary 3-month separation, they decide they want to be permanently separated? If they've got a lot of children, then we have to be very careful, very prayerful, & it's a very big step that the couple is deciding to take, & they'd better have the faith for it!—And we should do all we can to try to see that whatever is best for the children is what's worked out.

44. In most cases the couple usually has to split up the children, unless they agree that one is going to take all of them & can somehow manage that way. But I suppose the normal thing is that they split up the children because it would be too much of a burden on either one of them to take all of the kids themselves.

45. We've had a number of cases where the husband was able to leave his wife without any real problem because somebody else had volunteered to take care of her & the kids, or she fell in love with someone else & someone else with her, & they'd gotten together. So in effect, the children already have another Daddy, so there wasn't really much problem with it. In a case like that he's not really deserting her. She's cared for & in some cases, she may have gotten what she wanted.