

Family - Surviving or Thriving? Pastor Don Brock Your Family is Under Attack

Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!

Open

While most of us would agree with the Bible's teaching that anyone who desires to follow Jesus needs to be prepared to face supernatural opposition (see Ephesians 6:10-18), we may not have the same level of awareness when it comes to understanding that our families, too, will need strengthening to stand firm. As we finish our series, Pastor Don sounds a warning bell to alert us to the many ways in which our families are at risk. In this guide, then, we'll be looking together at practical steps we can take to assist us as we build a strong foundation to both protect and grow our family's spiritual health. To get the conversation started, let everyone share what (if any) spiritual conversations were a part of their family life when they were growing up.

BIG THOUGHT

In the same way that our personal walk with Jesus needs focus and attention in order to grow, our family's spiritual life will also need our attention if we want to see it thrive.

1. To begin with, if we desire for our family to know God better we will need to set aside consistent and intentional times with Him as a family. Read Exodus 33:7-11. How did Moses meet with God? (v. 7) And how did God speak to Moses? (v. 11) What does this say about God's willingness to spend personal time with us? When and how can you build times with God into your family's regular daily schedule? Share any ideas with the group.
2. We will also need to spend time in the Bible together. Read Paul's words to his apprentice Timothy in 2 Timothy 3:14-17. What do we learn was a part of Timothy's childhood? (v. 15) What does Scripture do for us? (v. 15-17) Let group members share about any devotional resources they've used that have been helpful for sharing God's Word together.

3. Another component of spiritual health that can be practiced together as a family is prayer. Read Philippians 4:6-7. What two things does Paul set in opposition at the beginning of v. 6? What will be the result if we follow the verse's instructions? (v. 7) Think about your different family members and their circumstances - what are some things you could be praying for together?
4. Now read Revelation 5:11-14 for the author John's report of an example of worship in heaven. What in the passage stands out to you? Why? Have you ever had an experience where you were able to worship together as a family? What happened? What are practical ways you can make worship a part of your family's schedule?
5. Finally, read Jesus' last words to the disciples in Acts 1:8. What did He promise would happen to the disciples and what would be the result? What opportunities can you discover (in your local community or beyond) for your family to be on mission together in obedience to this commandment?

Take it Further

Talk with God and thank Him for the opportunity you have to lead your family to become spiritually stronger. Then ask for His help to give you wisdom and courage as you guide them.

Daily Readings

Day 1: Psalm 46:10

Day 2: Matthew 4:4

Day 3: 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Day 4: Psalm 150:6

Day 5: Psalm 96:3

Day 6: 2 Peter 1:5-8

Memory Verse: Proverbs 22:6



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