

AT HOME SERIES LAUNCH

BUILDING INTENTIONAL FAMILIES.
CREATING A DEFENSIBLE CHRISTIANITY

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“CHRISTIANITY – IT STARTS AT HOME”

BUILDING INTENTIONAL CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Maturity, Marriage, Family, Discipleship, Christianity

Introduction to the Text;

Joshua 24:15

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And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, **choose for yourselves this day** whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**”

Man Lives in a Culture of Worship

Because we have been created as spiritual beings.

Here within the United States we have

often depended upon our churches or an evangelist or a crusade to lead someone we know to Jesus Christ. While all these things have been used by God and will be used by God – there is the reality of the greater mission, a bigger ministry than an outreach
– **home life**

The Reality of “Caught” Christianity Cannot Be Denied.

What I mean by this is, that everything that Jesus taught, he did so by either doing it first and then teaching about it or he taught about it and then did it.

Genuine, Authentic Christianity

Is a result of people coming to God desperately and to His Word seriously and living new life passionately – is the only answer for our culture.

Right Now In America

40% of America's children are being born into this nation without a father. Between 1980 and 1994, the birth rate for **unmarried women** increased from **29.4%** to **46.2%**. Currently the rate has increased to a staggering **52.5 %**

Let Me Say This To All of You – Young People for Sure;

Physical abuse, Sexual abuse and Divorce is not normal
All these terrible things are very abnormal according to God and His Bible.

The Pastor Preaches the Power of the Cross and the Resurrection from the Dead and the Forgiveness of Sins - all of it is true...

But we're living in an age when we have the greatest of everything,
We have more broken homes, broken marriages, broken kids

In A Recent Nationwide **Family Research Council** Poll

Found that at Current Divorce rates Only **47%** of America's children will reach the age of **17** having the benefit of their parents staying together.

So many young people are saying – **“marriage doesn't work” so because of these numbers we're not going to get married.** but that's a living lie or a state of denial because men and women will always hook-up and make babies, wanted or unwanted !

CHRISTIANITY – IT STARTS AT HOME

BUILDING AN INTENTIONAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

1.) The **Mandate** for a Christian home

1a.) Is your home - a **Christ Centered** home ?

is Jesus Christ **allowed** to be leading your home ?

He Has Given Us a Model

Ephesians 5:21-23

Submitting to one another in the fear of God. :22 Wives, **submit** to your own husbands, as to the Lord. :23 For the husband is **head** of the wife, as also Christ is **head** of the church; and He is the **Savior** of the body.

The Daily Love and Interaction of a Family Led
By Dad and Mom – Sincerely - is a Powerful Catalyst for **Faith-Transfer**

**Mom, Dad – Which One of You Are Shaping and Creating =
Disciplining Your Child’s Views and Thoughts and Education ?**

A Google report shows that **2.2 billion** people who go to the Internet daily are between the ages of **15 to 25** years of age – *and according to the numbers, 2.5 billion hits per day are on pornographic sites.*

The World According to Wikipedia – is false

“The Internet has given atheists, agnostics, skeptics, the people who like to destroy everything that you and I believe, the almost equal access to your kids as your youth pastor and you have... whether you like it or not,” **said Apologist Josh McDowell.**

is Jesus Christ **allowed** to be leading your home ?

*if up until today its not happened -
then decide now to become intentional about it*

1b.) Is your home - a **Biblically Based home ?**

a home where the bible is a daily affair.

A home where worship and the Word is honestly held to as the rule

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Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

Train up **chanak**, *khaw-nak*; to narrow, or to place on the path. To set upon the track. to initiate or discipline and to guide allow the way.

Did You Know Everything Boys & Girls Need to Avoid

Premarital sex, violence, drunkenness, and stupidity is found
in the book of Proverbs.

1c.) Is your home - a *Real Christian* home ?

is Jesus Christ really welcome in your home?

Can your wife, husband, child say – *our home is a real Christian home.*

A Christian is a Place Where...

Love is a reality. **Pride** is resisted, **Knowledge** is infused, **Jesus** is pursued, the **Bible**
is read, **God** is revered...

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BUILDING AN INTENTIONAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

2.) The *Creation* of a Christian home

2a.) It requires - a *willingness to obey the Lord*

Dad, Mom – you’re “creating an image”
of who Jesus Christ is to your child.

You’ve been given a “God-ordained” Authority as a Mom & Dad.

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2b.) It requires - a *desire to do the Word*

Biblical Based Enthusiasm & Authenticity Cannot be Ignored.

Psalm 107:20

He sent His word and healed them, And delivered *them* from their destructions

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2c.) It requires - a *dependence upon each other*

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. :35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Psalm 128:3

Your wife *shall be* like a fruitful vine In the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table.

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CHRISTIANITY – IT STARTS AT HOME
BUILDING AN INTENTIONAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

3.) The *Maintaining* of a Christian home

3a.) Let your family *see the heart of God*

Jesus Can Be Experienced

Mom and Dad, Until your little ones grow up – you are like God to them.
They expect everything from you / they hope in you / they trust in you.

But Many of Us Need a New (Real) Picture of the Lord in Our lives
to Be Able to Pass Him Along to Our Kids...

Let Your Kids See God's Heart in Your Home

By Grace / By Forgiveness / By Joy / By Salvation... - Example

1 Corinthians 11:1

Imitate me, just as I also *imitate* Christ.

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3b.) Let your family see the ministry of God

perhaps what's lacking more than anything these days
is a **home-life** a **family-life** that is dedicated to **doing the faith !**

Expose Your Children to Ministry Life

for an example:

this church has almost unlimited opportunities for you to get your family involved in a
ministry that passes the torch of faith.

Doing Christianity is What's Missing Today

Many young people today think they're **anti-church** when in reality they are sick and
tired of seeing faith that never makes a difference in their home-life.

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4.) The Reality of a Christian home

A Warning Here:

I have seen and I hear about people who can talk up the Bible and talk up their great faith and talk up what God's doing in their lives - - and then you meet their kids or their husband or wife - - then there's the reality check !!!

I heard in Texas they say,
"They're All Hat and No Cattle"

Matthew 19:13

Then little children were brought to Him that He might put *His* hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. :14 But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." :15 And He laid *His* hands on them and departed from there.

4a.) Husbands: today begins the day that you serve your wife

Family – Ordained by God

Genesis 18:17-18

And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, :18 since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? :19 For I have known him, in order that he may **command** his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice,

command *tsavah*, *tsaw-vaw'*; send the message out, to set in order or in-line. to preside over his own. to nurture along. – the man, the father – dad is to be doing this.

Ephesians 5:21-23

Submitting to one another in the fear of God. **LETS US TEACH YOU HOW** :22 Wives, **submit** to your own husbands, as to the Lord. **LETS US SHOW YOU HOW** :23 For the husband is **head** of the wife, **LET THE HUSBAND DIE** as also Christ is **head** of the church; **LETS OBEY THIS** and He is the **Savior** of the body. **MEN BEING SELF-SACRIFICING MEN**

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4b.) Wives: today begins the day – you hand the reigns over

God made men to lead. Leading “God’s Way” is completely different from what our culture has taught us.

(men – get into this @Home discipleship and watch what happens)

God’s Model Works When Men Step Up.

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4c.) Dad: today begins the day – you give your time away

**Include Your Wife & Children in Everything Dad.
(make it happen)**

Your Children See You Like You See Jesus / God

I am going to run a great risk right now

of possibly offending a young father that attends this church – recently I was seated behind him and his family and his daughter of about 7 to 9 years of age just couldn’t leave him alone...

Ephesians 6:4

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

4d.) Mom: today begins the day – you give them your life

Motherhood is a gift from God. It carries with it profound responsibility.

On the day of judgment – you will not

be quizzed on your sales record or your tennis game or your shoe collection - - it will be your faithfulness and you having pointed your child to Christ.

You've Given Birth to Them – But are they Born Again and is their faith growing?

4e.) Kids: today begins the day – you mimic your parents

There is a Blessing and Warning to This

1Kings 22 says that Ahaziah the son of Ahab became king over Israel...

1 Kings 22:52

Ahaziah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother

2Chr. 20 says that Jehoshaphat was king over Judah.

2 Chronicles 20:32

And he walked in the way of his father Asa, and did not turn aside from it, doing *what was* right in the sight of the LORD.

Kids Have Been Designed by God to Become Like Their Parents.

It's written into our making.

Ephesians 6:1

Children, **obey your parents in the Lord**, for this is right. :2 "*Honor your father and mother,*" which is the first commandment with promise. :3 "*that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.*"

!! Grandmas and Grandpas Arise !!

If your adult kids are going to be derelict in this – then you give them Jesus !

Psalm 78:4

We will not hide *them* from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.