

“The Connected Family – Part II”

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Did you know the desire for a family that is connected and joyful is the design of the Lord? The longing is placed in our hearts from creation when the Lord said, “It is not good for man to be alone.” (Genesis 2:18)

1. Having a Godly focus in the home **CONNECTS** families! (Leviticus 23:1-2)

Old Testament feasts connected the family, as the family connected to the Lord.

The youngest child would be assigned to ask the question of why we do this feast! (Kids were central role players in the Hebrew faith!)

2. Share more than just facts...share **LIFE!** (I Thessalonians 2:8)

Delighting in others results in sharing our lives with them!

3. Discipline and boundaries do not **DESTROY** families, but builds them!

(Proverbs 13:24)

4. Create times together to **WORK** and play. (Ephesians 6:4)

HOW TO:

Play the Hi-Lo Game

Make eating together priority

Stir gratefulness with every gift and meal

Lots of praise and celebration that draws the family in

GraceRiver Church Small Group Study Guide

“The Connected Family – Part II” April 23-27, 2012

What was a highlight of your family growing up? Name one good memory from your childhood. Name one lesson you were taught as a kid that is helpful to you today (do some thinking on this one)?

What was done to impress this upon you?

Have you thought about what needs your family members may have according to the top 10 relational needs? Name one family member and how you might meet one of their top 10 needs.

If you were to summarize the teaching from Sunday in 2-3 sentences what would you say?

Ephesians 6:4 says to bring children up in the ways of the Lord. What would you understand as “the ways of the Lord?” What 2-3 steps would you think might be the best in raising kids in this way?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and jot down some observations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Why does Moses keep emphasizing teaching these commands to the children?

How would you characterize or describe this method of teaching children?

What can you learn from this method about teaching and learning and “impressing upon someone” truth that is important?

How would these methods support the command of Deuteronomy 6:5?

What patterns can you establish to help your family “know the Lord”? Remember, how we teach may engage the children or dis-engage them. What can you do to engage all members of your family in this pursuit of Christ?

How can you make spiritual development a normal part of your patterns and routines in life?

How can you make spiritual awareness and development engaging and enjoyable for all your family in this stage of life (whatever stage you are currently in)?

Next week is a big week on how to heal hurts. Who can you invite to be part of that experience?