

HOME- BUILDERS CLASS

*INTRODUCTION
TO A STUDY ON
THE FAMILY*



OBJECTIVES

- To built up and strengthen one of the most important elements within our church family through a Family Based Ministry with the strong desire to enrich the church of tomorrow by making a commitment to our families of today.
- Spiritual wellness always begins by putting God first in all things both in the family and the home.
- The ultimate goal of a Family Based Ministry would be to provide the tools, knowledge, and opportunities for families to be able to build a strong spiritual foundation.
- At the foundation of any ministry of the church should be the Word of God:
- Colossians 3:16 – 17 (ESV) (*16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*)

STUDY ON THE FAMILY OUTLINE

- The Foundation of the Family
- Spiritual Training in the Family
 - Individual Spiritual development
 - Lifting up your spouse
 - Training our children
 - Faith in Practice/Family Service Projects
- Breakdown of roles in the Family
 - Husband's responsibilities
 - Wife's responsibilities
 - Where do children fit in?
 - How about Grandparents?
- Developing and Enriching relationships in the Family
 - Protecting your spouse and yourself from sin/Safe Guards against Sin
 - Disciplining Children
 - Communication: Verbal & Nonverbal
 - Conflict Resolution
- Guarding and Protecting the Family
 - Financial Planning
 - Duties in the Family
 - Balancing Family, Work, Church, & Fun
 - Dealing with Unfaithfulness & a broken heart
 - Divorce and Remarriage

THE NEED
FOR A
HOME-
BUILDERS'
CLASS

The Basic Building Blocks of
the church are our families.

- Proverb 22:6
- Deut. 6:4 – 9
- Matthew 18:1 – 6
- Mark 10:5 – 9

THE NEED FOR A HOME-BUILDERS' CLASS

Families are hurting within our churches.

- When we examine the family in our culture we discover a broken image of what God has intended.
 - Today approximately 50% of marriages end in divorce.
 - Over half of all marriages begin with cohabitation.
 - 41% of children are born outside of marriage.
 - 25% of children are raised in a one-parent home.
- The breakdown of the family is harming our children's spiritual growth.
 - Around 60% of children leave the church after or before leaving the home.
 - Statistically it takes 4 parents to retain one child in the church into adulthood.
 - Those children, whom we are able to retain beyond childhood into adulthood, are a lot of times hurting spiritually.
 - Let's face it we are losing this most important battle.

GOALS FOR OUR CLASS

- Strengthen our understanding of the family
- Identify our role in the family
- To build a system of support for our families
- Develop a program of activities to help in strengthening our families and church unity.

Devotionals come from Jim Burns and Mike DeVries in Partnering with Parents in Youth Ministry, (Gospel Light): 87-107.

Devotional: AFFIRMATION BOMBARDMENT

Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

DISCUSS (This section is just short discussion time from the verse):

- How do (SHOULD) we encourage one another as a family?
- What does it mean to stir one another up in love and good works?
- Would you describe your family as an encouraging family or discouraging family (ALLOW EVERYONE TO ANSWER...allow room for honesty)?

DISCHARGE

(The meat of the devotional...usually an activity to get you thinking): Give each member of the family one piece of paper for every other family member (e.g., if your family has four people, each person will receive three pieces of paper) and something to write with. Each person should write three affirming words or phrases about another member (e.g., —Meredith makes life so much fun to live!!) of the family on each piece of paper. When everyone is finished, share what everyone has written in turn. For example, say the King's are doing this and everyone is finished then everyone would read what they said about Donny, then Cara and so on and so forth.

DEBRIEF (processing what you just learned):

- How did this make you feel as a family? Did we laugh, cry, smile, feel all warm and fuzzy inside?
- What can we do to make sure these affirmations do not stop?

Hang up your affirmation papers where everyone will see them and keep pens and pencils close by to encourage each other to add to the list!

Close with a prayer!!!