



Our Family Time with God



My Family Time with God



**Oasis** Daily Refreshment for the Thirsty Soul



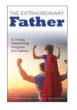
Deep Fire Daily Challenges for a Burning Heart



The Extraordinary Husband



The Extraordinary Wife



The Extraordinary Father



Forgiveness How to Get Along with Everybody all the Time

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# WELCOME TO THE Home Improvement Family Conference

Dear Attendee,

We are so excited about the **HOME IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE**, and glad you have chosen to attend!

Our focus is on building happy homes. Messages and materials are designed to strengthen your family.

Your home (family) is your biggest investment. Dedicate this week as an investment in your future. Plan on attending and bringing your entire family to each service.

Anticipating a Great Week together.

Harold and Debbie Vaughan

"If therefore our houses be houses of the Lord, we shall for that reason love home, reckoning our daily devotion the sweetest of our daily delights; and our family-worship the most valuable of our family-comforts... A church in the house will be a good legacy, nay, it will be a good inheritance, to be left to your children after you." —Matthew Henry

"I believe that being successful means having a balance of success stories across the many areas of your life. You can't truly be considered successful in your business life if your home life is in shambles." —Zig Ziglar



Join with hundreds of other attendees for a powerful time of preaching and helpful workshops. Here you will find an atmosphere designed to move you forward on your knees. This is an ADVANCE—not a Retreat! We want to progress, not back-up.

Christ Life Ministries sponsors Advances for Men, Women, Couples, and Students. To get more details, scan the code below or go to our website at:

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# A HAPPY HOME IS WHERE FAMILY MEMBERS <u>ARE INTENTIONALLY</u> <u>GRATEFUL</u>

\*Eph. 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Your VERTICAL relationship with God has tremendous implications on your HORIZONTAL relationship with your family.

## 1. Giving Thanks Always

Always—at all times

1 Cor. 1:4 *I thank my God always on your behalf,* for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ

Phil. 1:3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you

Rom 1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all

## 2. Giving Thanks for All Things

You don't give Thanks because everything is good... But because God is GOOD.

## Top 50 List

Compile your own personal Thanksgiving List. Simply write out under each heading the things for which you are grateful for within that category. You are blessed far greater than you realize! Thanksgiving is a command, a duty, and a privilege. When you bless the Lord for His goodness, you will get blessed in return.

God	Family	Friends
Spiritual Benefits	Physical Blessings	Material Provisions
Churches/Ministries	Challenges	Those who will be Saved!

# A HAPPY HOME IS WHERE FAMILY MEMEBERS **SPEAK APPROPRIATELY**

Everybody longs for a nest without thorns.

- Eph. 4:25 Wherefore *putting away lying, speak every man truth* with his neighbor: for we are members one of another.
- Eph. 4:29 Let no **corrupt communication** proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

#### **Rules for Family Conversations**

- 1. Think Twice Before You Speak
- 2. Speak Calmly, not Combatively
- 3. Compliment Instead of Criticize.
- 4. Magnify the Positives Instead of the Negatives
- 5. Listen First–Speak Later
- 6. Don't Interrupt-Learn to Interpret
- 7. Labor to be Understood and Labor to Understand
- 8. Honor God's Blueprint for the Home

#### **Application Time:**

- 1. How do words set the tone in a family?
- 2. Which of the points listed above are needed most in our home now?
- 3. Pray together.

- 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things
- 1 Thes. 5:18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

#### 3. GIVING THANKS IN ADVANCE

Believing you ACTUALLY possess what you ask for in prayer is not PRESUMPTION—The Bible calls it faith!

#### Application Time:

Have a time of Thanksgiving Prayer as a family

- Thank God for your blessings
- Thank God for your challenges
- Thank God in Advance for your needs

#### Notes:

# A HAPPY HOME IS WHERE FAMILY MEMEBERS HAVE MASTERED THE ART OF FORGIVENESS

- "Forgiveness is a beautiful concept until you have to forgive someone."—C. S. Lewis
- Eph. 4:31-32 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another**, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

#### FORGIVENESS IS NOT ...

- Pretending no offense was committed
- Trying to figure out why the offender did what he/she did
- Blaming yourself for what your offender did to you
- Ignoring the pain in your heart

#### FORGIVENESS is...

- Appropriating the grace God has given to you and extending it to your offender
- Absorbing a liability someone else deserves to pay
- A decision which must be reaffirmed often
- Giving up my right to hurt you for hurting me
- The perfume the trampled flower leaves upon the heel that crushed it
- Cancellation of an offense
- Choosing to release a debt

It may cost you a lot to put things right, But it will cost you a lot more to leave it wrong!

### Three Areas Where Forgiveness is Called for...

Here's how to get CLEAN...

- ADMIT it...
- QUIT it...
- FORGET it!
- 3. Praise Protocol
- Ps. 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and **into his courts with praise**: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
- "Instead of counting your BRUISES, try counting your BLESSINGS."—Unknown

Praise God **WHEN** you feel like it... Praise God **UNTIL** you feel like it!

## 4. Singing Protocol

- Ps. 100:2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
- Ps. 95:2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and **make a joyful noise unto him with psalms**.
- "God has given three things to refresh the soul: nature, friendship, and music."—Unknown

# A HAPPY HOME IS WHERE FAMILY MEMBERS PRAY TOGETHER

Eph. 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints

Four Laws of Prayer Protocol in the Bible...

#### 1. Gratitude Protocol

Ps. 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

- Consider your PRESENT POSITION in light of your FORMER CONDITION.
- "He who forgets the language of gratitude can never be on speaking terms with happiness."—C. Neil Strait

### 2. Clean Protocol

Ps. 24:3-4 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? **He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart**; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

He bore our **sin** that we might have His **righteousness**.

- Took our guilt that we might have His grace.
- Took our shame that we might have His smile.
- Took our **punishment** that we might have His **peace**.
- Took our death that we might have His life.
- Took our **penalty** that we might have His **pardon**.

### 1. Accepting Forgiveness <u>FROM</u> God

- Ps. 130:4 *"There is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared"*
- Acts 13:38 "Through this man (Jesus) is preached unto you the **forgiveness of sins**"
- Eph. 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the **forgiveness of sins**, according to the riches of his grace"

## 2. Granting Forgiveness TO Others

Our forgiveness of others is based on what God has done FOR us, not what others have done TO us.

#### Forgiveness is NOT an Emotion—It is a DECISION.

#### Forgiveness is a DECESION to Cancel a Debt.

Once you Release a debt DON'T...

- REHEARSE it...
- NURSE it...
- CURSE it...
- DO pray for them.

## 3. Asking Forgiveness FROM Others

"Never ruin an apology with an excuse."—Ben Franklin

Ten Words for Revival in the Home... "I was wrong. I am sorry. Will you forgive me?"

### Family Huddle Time:

- 1. Discussion: What spoke to you in this message?
- 2. Do you need to use those Ten Words for Revival in the Home? "I was wrong. I am sorry. Will you forgive me?"
- 3. Pray Together.

# A HAPPY HOME IS WHERE FAMILY MEMBERS **RECONCILE QUICKLY**

Before marriage opposites ATTRACT. After marriage opposites IRRITATE!

Eph. 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath

#### **Eight Guidelines for Resolving Conflicts:**

#### 1. Be honest.

v. 25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

#### 2. Learn to control your anger

- v. 26—Be ye angry and sin not.
- 3. Determine the right time to deal with problems.
- v. 26–Don't let the sun go down upon your wrath

### 4. Be committed to a creative alternative.

v. 28—Let him that stole steal no more, but rather let him labor working that which is good.

### 5. Be tactful

v. 29—Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth.

### 6. Stop Grieving Holy Spirit

v. 30—And grieve not the holy Spirit of God...

### 7. Keep it private

v.31—Let all bitterness, wrath, evil speaking . . . be put away from you, with all malice.

#### 8. Restore your relationships

v. 32—Be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another.

Conflicts are inevitable.

Conflicts are solvable.

### **Application Time:**

- 1. What part of this message spoke most to you?
- 2. Are there actions that need to be taken in your home?
- 3. Pray together.

#### Notes: