



Straight Talk about Family Life

A BLAMELESS LIFE IS A CONSISTENT LIFE

- no shame, no guilt, no regrets -

THAT WOULD MAKE JESUS HAPPY AND PROUD

A CONSISTENT CHRISTIAN LIFE BEGINS AT HOME

THE HUSBAND OF ONE WIFE

An Elder must have single-minded devotion to his wife.

A mature Christian has single-minded devotion to their spouse.

A mature Christian (single or married) maintains moral purity in mind, heart, and body.

P_____

P_____

P_____

A MAN WHOSE CHILDREN BELIEVE AND ARE NOT OPEN TO THE CHARGE OF BEING WILD AND DISOBEDIENT

An Elder gives godly guidance to family faith.

A mature Christian parent devotes quality and quantity time and energy to lead their children to trust and obey the Lord.

Parenting is a t_____ course and t___ drive for church leaders

Parenting can ensure the s_____ line but not the f_____ line.

Parenting is a risky, rewarding journey deserving t__p_____.



Straight Talk about Family Life

DISCUSSION STARTERS

You can use the following questions and statements in a variety of ways - in your LIFE group, around the family dinner table, or simply with friends over coffee - to help you understand the Bible better and apply it to your life..

A consistent Christian life begins at home.

True or False: The true test of Christian maturity is a person's home life.

What are three to five things about your home life while growing up that affected you (good or bad) when it comes to matters of faith?

Imagine that someone is coming to spend *one week, month, or year* living with your family to learn about Christianity so they can decide whether to become a Christian. If their decision were based on a consistent Christian life observed in your home, would they be more or less likely to receive Christ? Why?

A mature Christian has single-minded devotion to their spouse.

Priority: Talk about the dangerous convergence of "low fulfillment" and "high enticement" in someone's life. What are some practical ways that people can maintain single-minded devotion to their spouse? What are some specific ways that you can communicate to your spouse that he/she is your *one and only one*?

Purity: Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8. Why does Paul address morality first when describing the will of God? Why is self control a learned vs natural trait? What's the difference between the standards of the Lord vs the world? How do you decide for you and your family what sort of materials or entertainments "cross the line"?

Permanence: See Matthew 5:27-30, 19:4-12, 1 Corinthians 7:1-16. What are some steps a couple can take to secure marital stability? How can a couple keep disagreements from becoming arguments or disappointments from becoming bitterness? Are there ways you might encourage a friend struggling in their marriage?

A mature Christian parent devotes quality and quantity time and energy to lead their children to trust and obey the Lord.

Imagine that someone comes to spend *eighteen years* living with your family. What effect would your home life have on their decision to follow Christ?

What can parents do to train children in the faith and guide them to believe?

What can parents do to keep children from being "wild and disobedient"?

True or False: "Parenting can ensure the starting line but not the finish line."

Read Luke 15:11-32. What was the Prodigal Son's basic mistake? What can parents learn about responding to a Prodigal? What's up with the older brother?

Have you as a parent ever had a "Where did we go wrong" moment?

Talk about how to make parenting a top priority in today's hectic life.

