

Message Six

Will You Make Your Family A Priority?

Pastor Mike Chapman

There is no **one** priority in our lives. We have multiple priorities, and our challenge is learning how to balance them – not just in our time but with our focus and energy.



WHY THE FAMILY IS SO IMPORTANT

The family was **God's idea**.

Genesis 1:27, 2:23-25, So God created man in his own image in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it...The man said, "This is now bone of my

bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. (NIV)

The family is foundational to **societal** stability.

Malachi 4:6, Elijah will help parents love their children and children love their parents. Otherwise, I will come and put a curse on the land. (NCV)

The family mirrors **divine relationships**.

Ephesians 2:19, So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners...You are now members of God's family. (NLT)

The family is key to the **transmission** of faith.

Malachi 2:15, God made husbands and wives to become one body and one spirit for his purpose—so they would have children who are true to God. So be careful, and do not break your promise to the wife you married when you were young. (NCV)

QUICK NOTES FOR FAMILY SUCCESS

1. **Talk** the **talk** and **walk** the **walk**.

Deuteronomy 6:5-9, Love GOD with your whole heart: love him with all that's in you, love him with all you've got! Write these commandments that I've given you

today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night. Tie them on your hands and foreheads as a reminder; inscribe them on the doorposts of your homes and on your city gates. (Msg)

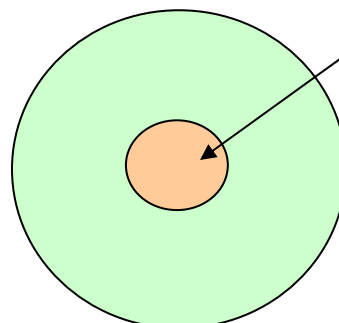
2. Develop **smart** love.

Ephesians 5:21-25; 6:1-3, Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another. Wives, understand and support your husbands in ways that show your support for Christ. The husband provides leadership to his wife the way Christ does to his church, not by domineering but by cherishing. ...Husbands, go all out in your love for your wives, exactly as Christ did for the church—a love marked by giving, not getting..Children, do what your parents tell you. This is only right. "Honor your father and mother"...Fathers, don't exasperate your children by coming down hard on them. Take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master. (Msg)

3. Have **lots** of **fun**.

1 Timothy 6:17, *God richly gives us everything to enjoy.* (NCV)

Is Your Life in
Balance?



What's in here?