

VISION FOR FAMILY

Family Anthem: Week One

WHY FAMILY?

- Who needs a family? We all do!
- Our target is parents, 25-45 years old, married with 2.5 kids under 5 years old! But...
- Some families have older kids in transition!
- Families have aunts and uncles, grandparents, single parents and extended members too!
- Some of you want to start or restart a family!

JESUS LOVES FAMILY

- Didn't Jesus say to hate your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters- even our own lives (Luke 14:26)?
 - So why should we focus on our family life today? Jesus did say that, but his point was our love for Him is to supersede all other great loves. Once we love Him first, He points us straight back to family.
- Adam and Eve were married and told to multiply. The Bible teaches the blessings of marriage and child-raising. Jesus blessed the children and welcomed them as examples. And 1 Timothy 5:8 says we're worse than an unbeliever if we don't care for our family!

BUT THOSE WHO WON'T CARE FOR THEIR RELATIVES, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THEIR OWN HOUSEHOLD, HAVE DENIED THE TRUE FAITH. SUCH PEOPLE ARE WORSE THAN UNBELIEVERS.

1 Timothy 5:8

FAMILY ANTHEM SERIES

Week #	Title	Main Point
One	Vision	Family is a top priority
Two	Focus	We must learn to say “No” to say “Yes”
Three	Support	Words are for building up a family
Four	Real	Reconcile not retaliate
Five	Close	Intimacy over individualism
Six	Dynamic	Appreciating our differences

CHOOSING

- Making family a top priority is a choice, and we all are called to choose it. But it is your choice.

"THE MOST SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY YOU WILL ENGAGE IN TODAY IS MAKING CHOICES. OUR CHOICES EITHER MOVE US TOWARD GOD AND ALL THE FULFILLMENT THAT COMES IN HIM OR STEER US AWAY FROM HIM TO A LIFE OF SHAME AND FEAR."

Erwin McManus

CHOOSING

- Joshua is a great leader in the Bible and he made a great choice for his family.
 - He grew up in a broken society where grumbling and complaining was commonplace. He was surrounded by backsliding people who were no longer interested in the God who redeemed them from slavery in Egypt.
 - Yet, Joshua made different choices. He was one of two spies who seeing the threats and opportunities of the Promised Land chose to trust the Lord's word. He also chose to be disciplined by a godly mentor in Moses.
 - As a leader he called the people to choose the god they would serve, and he stood strong upon his choice, saying...

CHOOSING

"SO FEAR THE LORD AND SERVE HIM WHOLEHEARTEDLY. PUT AWAY FOREVER THE IDOLS YOUR ANCESTORS WORSHIPED WHEN THEY LIVED BEYOND THE EUPHRATES RIVER AND IN EGYPT. SERVE THE LORD ALONE. BUT IF YOU REFUSE TO SERVE THE LORD, THEN CHOOSE TODAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE. WOULD YOU PREFER THE GODS YOUR ANCESTORS SERVED BEYOND THE EUPHRATES? OR WILL IT BE THE GODS OF THE AMORITES IN WHOSE LAND YOU NOW LIVE? BUT AS FOR ME AND MY FAMILY, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD."

Joshua 24:14-15

- What was his choice? He chose the personal true and holy God as his own. He chose service as his role. He chose this as his family's vision!

VISION FOR FAMILY

In God's economy family is a top priority and we are called to choose it. The Bible shows us Joshua and Jesus and so many others who make this choice. How can we choose family as a top priority?

VISION FOR FAMILY

1. What is your role in your family?
2. Is there a vision statement for your family? If not...
3. Here's how to get started in creating one!
 - A. What are some good things families in our society serve as ultimate things? (sports, money, kids, academics, fame, work etc.)
 - B. What are three words you would like to immediately come to people's minds when they think of your family? (integrity, love, courage, faith, mission, character, perseverance etc.)

VISION FOR FAMILY

As for the George Hulse family we are working on our own vision statement and it is in this ballpark,

"WE SERVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH INTEGRITY AND PERSEVERANCE FOR GOD'S GLORY, IN ALL OF OUR DAYS AND IN ALL OF OUR WAYS."