

Lesson 5: What Makes a Family Strong?

1. As you survey the family scene these days, why do you think many families are in trouble?
2. Discuss the historical changes in the American family the past one hundred years. While we have more advantages today, do you think the family has generally become stronger or weaker?
3. What usually happens to children when they are given too much? What usually happens to adults when *they* are given too much?
4. It's easy to conclude that these are the worst of times. A study of the first century moral culture, however, reveals that it was much like our own. Yet that climate produced godly young people who grew to be spiritual leaders. Like Timothy. That young man did not become spiritually mature by accident. What do you know about his upbringing that contributed to his success (2 Timothy 1.5; 3.14-15)?

THE FATHER KNOWS BEST

5. Why do you think Moses addressed parents to “love the Lord your God with all *your* heart” *before* he admonished them to teach their children?

6. It’s often said that children mimic our actions more than our words. For example, what does it communicate to our kids when we talk about spiritual priorities yet miss the assembly to attend a ballgame? Or we teach modesty only to allow them to attend paces where immodesty is the rule?

7. Our children need to know the acts of the Bible. But they also need to know *how* the Bible connects to real life. In addition to knowing the Bible answers, how can we equip them better to live Bible lives?

8. Moses encouraged them to use the natural flow of conversation to deposit truth in to the lives of their children. Think of specific ways to do that with the four daily around-the-house opportunities presented in **Deut. 6.7**.

9. **“And write them on the doorposts of your house” (Deut. 6.9)**. Is Scripture prominent around *your* house?