

Family Discipleship

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Investing in the Next Generation



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And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Luke 2:52

And Jesus _____ in wisdom and
_____, and in favor with God and
_____.

Luke 2:52

Jesus grew...

Intellectually

Physically

Spiritually

Socially

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Family Discipleship Time is...

...creating intentional time built into the rhythm of the family's life for the purpose of thinking about, talking about, and living out the gospel

Ephesians 5:16 - making the best use of the time because the days are evil

Making the Best Use of Our Time

*Family Discipleship pg. 87- When you can't do what you **should** be doing because you feel compelled to be doing something less important that you believe you **have** to do, you might have a disordered relationship with your itinerary*

Laying Aside the Weights

*Hebrews 12:1- Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also **lay aside every weight**, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,*

Weights are the things that keep hindering us from being consistent with our Family Discipleship Times.

Family Discipleship pg. 88- Family Discipleship Time is....the base strength of your overall discipling strategy. It can be semi sporadic or every day. It can be always changing or stable for decades, but what your family discipleship time cannot be is nonexistent.

The Two Key Components of Family Discipleship Time

- ***Rhythm-*** Be steady, designating the times with commitment and consistency
- ***Intentionality-*** Be studied, designating the times with planning and purpose

Rhythm

Family Discipleship pg. 94- Exercising can help make a body stronger and faster, but only if you do it with discipline and consistency. The same is true for the spiritual strength of your family. One-off occasional family devotions are good, but they will not have the same positive cumulative effect on your child's training as gatherings done consistently...

Rhythm

Family Discipleship pg. 94- *Family discipleship time should be something religiously habitual for your household. We recommend that spiritual leadership times be woven into what you are already doing, rather than adding more to your schedule. It is up to you to designate when your family will meet.*

Two Things We Need to Know About the Rhythm of Family Discipleship

1. The Rhythm of Family Discipleship will be Hard

- We **Must** understand how **Important** this is
- We will have to **Fight** to remain **Consistent**

Two Things We Need to Know About the Rhythm of Family Discipleship

- ***Family Discipleship pg. 94-95-*** Diligent means you don't give up. Diligent means you are patient. Diligent means you don't compromise the truth just because it might make your child uncomfortable.
- ***Deuteronomy 6:7a-*** You shall teach them diligently to your children...

Two Things We Need to Know About the Rhythm of Family Discipleship

2. The Rhythm of Family Discipleship must become a Habit

- The habits that our households have are all a part of our daily and weekly rhythm
- Family Discipleship Time has to become one of those habits, no different than eating supper, brushing our teeth, cleaning the house, going to church and so on

Two Things We Need to Know About the Rhythm of Family Discipleship

2. The Rhythm of Family Discipleship must become a Habit

- If Family Discipleship Time doesn't become a Habit, then it's not part of your Rhythm
- ***Deuteronomy 6:7b-*** ...and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Two Things We Need to Know About the Intentionality of Family Discipleship

1. Intentionality in Family Discipleship is Critical to Cultivating Spiritually Mature Children

- *Family Discipleship pg. 96- If your kids are left to grow “naturally,” their lives are much more likely to look like a vice-ridden thicket than a virtuous spiritual vineyard*

Ephesians 6:10-18- Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Ephesians 6:10-18 - Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.

Two Things We Need to Know About the Intentionality of Family Discipleship

2. Intentionality in Family Discipleship means We are Proactive, Not Passive

- Men, this is our greatest downfall, and it has been since the garden of Eden
- The reason this world is in the condition it is is because **Adam** was not **Proactive**
- If we are not **Proactive** Satan will slip in and destroy our families the same way that he slipped in and destroyed Adam's family
- If we are not **Proactive** **Time** will pass us by and it will be too late

Genesis 3:1-6- *Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.*

Family Discipleship Time Teaching

1. For Younger Children Keep it Fun and Simple

- **Let's be Real!** Most of the time your Family Discipleship Time is not going to go the way you have it planned out in your mind

2. Challenge Older Children by Cultivating Ownership and Responsibility

- Get them to read a passage (smaller portions) and let them try explaining what's going on in the passage as well as what the truths it conveys mean for us

3. For All Ages Ask Questions

- **Family Discipleship pg. 100**

Family Discipleship Time Ideas

- 1. Daily Family Discipleship Time Ideas- pg. 102**
- 2. Weekly Family Discipleship Time Ideas- pg. 103**
- 3. Monthly Family Discipleship Time Ideas- pg. 104**

Family Discipleship Resources

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