

# FAITH AT HOME

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY

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MARCH 17, 2024



- Review
- Building a Foundation
- What is a Spiritually Vibrant Household?



Dad joke #1

# TODAY'S AGENDA



- Abiding with Christ
- What is a Household?  
/why does it matter?  
*Questions?*

## REVIEW

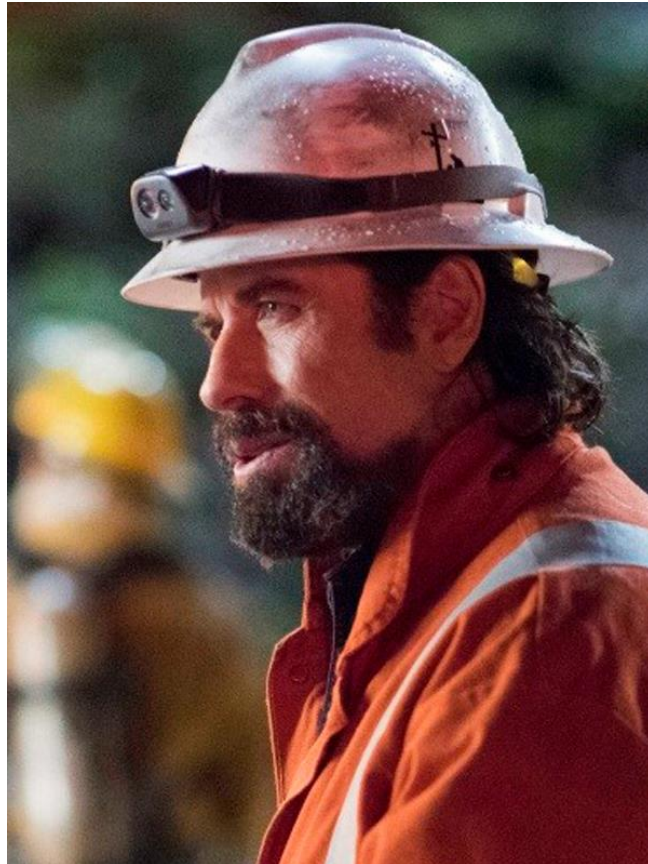
# Building a Foundation

Our Guiding Light

The Significance of the  
Mundane



# BUILDING A FOUNDATION



"You guys  
wanna hear  
a construction  
joke? Hold on,  
I'm working on it"

Dad joke #2

# BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Our Guiding Light from the Bible

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.



# BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Our Guiding Light from the Bible

+ • Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (continued)

**You shall teach them diligently to your children,** 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. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



# STILL BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

DEUT 6:4-9: THE SHEMA

WHICH IN HEBREW MEANS “HEAR”

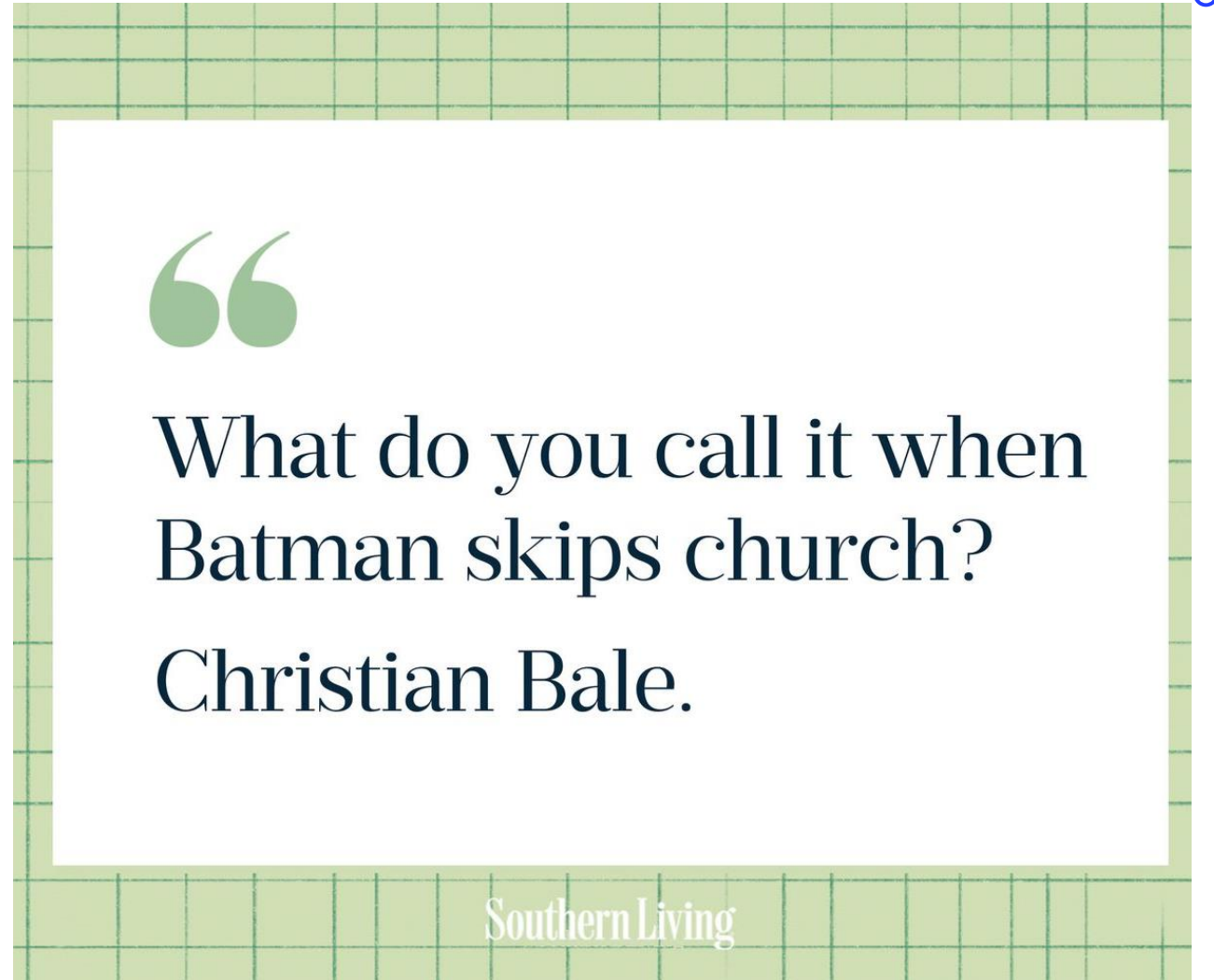


Obviously, this points out the raising up of children, but remember that in ancient Israel a household usually contained many more persons than just the nuclear family. This is our guiding principle – the Shema.



# INTERLUDE

Dad joke #3



“

What do you call it when  
Batman skips church?  
Christian Bale.

Southern Living

# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

What makes for a “good” household?



Before we can have a spiritually vibrant household, we need to have a vibrant household.

- How would your children or grandchildren describe your home? Don't have kids yet? How would you like your future children to describe your home?

- What do others see in your family when they visit your home? Do you even have visitors in your home?
- What attributes first come to mind when you think back on the household(s) of your youth?
- What can you do to make a better home environment?

# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

What makes for a “good” household?

What does the research say?

Once again, we need to thank Lutheran Hour Ministries and the Barna Group for most of this research.



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

What makes for a “good” household?

How would you describe “home”?

Comfortable: 69%

Loving: 67%

Safe: 65%

Peaceful: 55%

Casual: 54%

Joyful: 51%

Playful: 41%

Nurturing: 38%



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

What makes for a “good” household?

More descriptors

Old-fashioned: 25%

Intellectual: 22%

Artistic: 14%

Messy: 14%

Tense: 9%

Others listed include Crowded,  
Secretive, Sad, In crisis





# The Significant of the Mundane

These are how Christians described their homes.

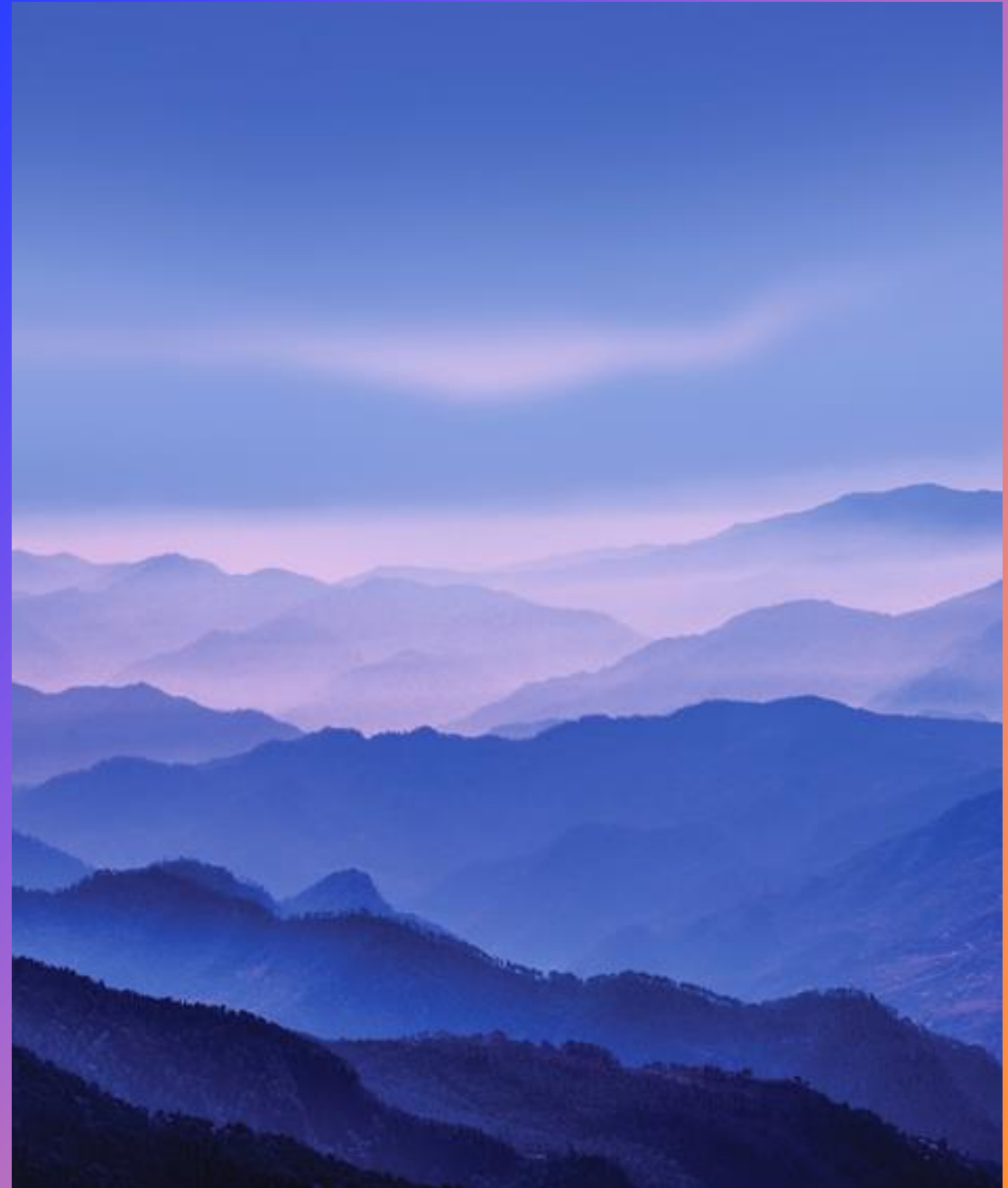
It's the routines, activities and relationships that create the atmosphere.

What kind of atmosphere permeates your household?

# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

This is what we were getting at two weeks ago when we discussed **“abiding.”**

Abiding is about a relationship with another, but so much more. It’s also about communication, trust, mutual respect, shared experiences – all leading to a deep, enduring, long-lasting connection.





# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

What makes for a “good” household?

**Dad jokes** make for a good household!

Dad joke #4

**When does a joke  
become a dad joke?**

**When it's fully groan...**



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

But what does it take to make a **Spiritually Vibrant** Household?



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

But what does it take to make a **Spiritually Vibrant Household**?

I have close friends in my life who feel like family: 91%

I personally pray to God: 80%

I personally read from the Bible in the past week: 76%

A household member talks with me about God's forgiveness: 76%

A household member sets an example: 73%

A household member teaches me about the Bible: 73%

A household member encourages me to go to church: 71%

A household member teaches me about traditions: 69%

We have household meetings: 68%



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

But what does it take to make a **Spiritually Vibrant Household**?

We share how we're feeling with each other daily: 59%

I pray with friends who visit: 58%

A close friend visits on a regular basis: 56%

I have deep conversations with close friends: 55%

We go on walks monthly: 55%

I personally attended religious small group or Bible study in the past week: 51%

We go to the park monthly: 48%

I have close friends over for dinner: 44%



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

But what does it take to make a **Spiritually Vibrant Household?**

- Members have a personal spirituality
- Spends fun, quality time together
- **A spiritual coach is present**
- Welcomes others
- Asks for help



# The Significant of the Mundane

## Do the Math

Parents have approximately 3,000 hours in a given year to influence the heart and life of their child.

In comparison, church leaders have approximately 40-52 hours with a child each year.

“The crucible of our [spiritual] formation is the anonymous monotony of our daily routines.”

– Trish Harrison Warren, *Liturgy of the Ordinary* (2016)

Daily life matters.



# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

Christ in the Home Matters

But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Joshua 24:15b





# INTERLUDE

Dad joke #5

“

*I'll call you later.*

Don't call me later.  
Call me Dad!

Southern Living



So, what can we do to create spiritually vibrant households?

# THE SPIRITUALLY VIBRANT HOUSEHOLD



# WHAT IS A SPIRITUALLY VIBRANT HOUSEHOLD?

From the patterns found in the LHM/Barna survey, some conclusions about what makes a spiritually vibrant household emerges:

- Individual members have a personal spirituality
- The family spends quality time together – they do fun things together
- There is at least one spiritual coach/leader in the family
- The household welcomes others into its fold
- The members of the households can ask and offer help to each other

LHM/Barna and Don Everts, *The Spiritually Vibrant Home* (the book we have used primarily so far) – organize these household characteristics into three concepts:

- Messy Prayers
- Loud Tables
- Open Doors

More on these concepts coming up, so be thinking about them. Also think about potential threats to a vibrant and spiritually vibrant household.

# THANK YOU

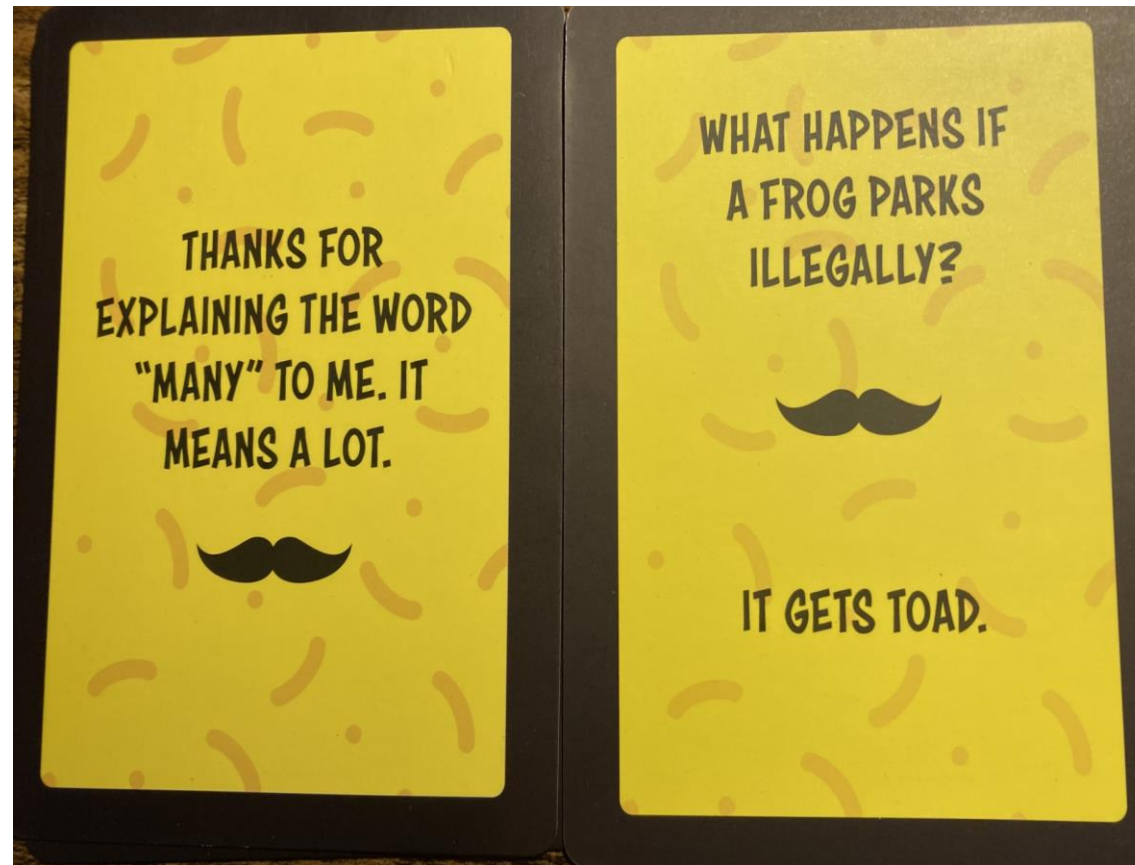


What did Jonah's family say  
when he told them about  
what happened before  
reaching Nineveh?

"Hmm, sounds fishy."

Dad joke #6

# GOOD BYE



Dad jokes #7 & 8