



Lead With Faith - Family

November 25 & 26, 2023

We have more to share. Text **CONNECT** to **888-644-4034**

Doug McCoy

"I am **socializing two homo sapiens in the dominant values of the Judeo-Christian tradition in order that they might be instruments for the transformation of the social order** into the teleologically prescribed utopia inherent in the eschaton."





Socializing homo sapiens is something you are familiar with. You just know it by a different, more biblical term.

Proverbs 22:6 (KJV) 6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.



Ephesians 6:4 (NIV) 4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Training children in the way they should go/bringing them up in the instruction of the Lord is the mission of God. And the vehicle for this mission is **family**.

I. Groups. God always intended humanity to be massive (Genesis 1:28). And He always manages this mass with groups.

-  _____ - Genesis 49:28
-  The Assembly In The Wilderness - Exodus 18:17-23
-  The _____ - Mark 6:40
-  The Church - Revelation 2 & 3



The original management group was and still is the family.

-  The Biological Family - those related by blood or marriage
-  The Spiritual Family - those choosing close, committed relationship

1 Timothy 3:14-15 (NIV) 14 Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, **15** if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in **God's household**, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

This is more than analogy or metaphor or good feelings. This is reality and strategy. Family is God's ideal group for managing the mass and His ideal vehicle for mission.

II. The Parent. The driver of this vehicle is the parent. Parents are the ones who train and bring up the family.

-  Biological Parents
-  Spiritual Parents

Romans 16:13 (NIV) 13 Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, **who has been a mother to me, too.**

1 Corinthians 4:14-15 (NIV) 14 I am writing this not to shame you but to warn you as my dear children. **15** Even if you had ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for **in Christ Jesus I became your father** through the gospel.





Judges 5:7 (NIV) 7 Villagers in Israel would not fight; they held back until I, Deborah, arose, **until I arose, a mother in Israel.**

Most believers can be/do this, and those who can should. We are being asked to accept this responsibility. God is calling us to be parents.

III. Parenting. Parents drive this vehicle by parenting. They contribute to the direction and development of the family in long-term positive interactions.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NIV) 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. **7 Impress them on your children.** Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

1 Kings 1:6 (NIV) 6 His father [David] had never rebuked him [Adonijah] by asking, "Why do you behave as you do?"

-  _____ a family - Matthew 12:49-50; Luke 10:5 & 6; John 17:6
-  Contribute with _____ and restraint - Colossians 3:21
-  Keep _____ on the kids
-  Set and maintain _____ - Bible reading, prayer, communion, holidays

This is parenting. This is what trains and brings up children. This is what accomplishes the mission of God and saves society. This is what God wants and the world needs.

The only thing left is that question, "**What do you do?**"

Prayer

Father, I am willing to be the parent You want me to be; I accept that responsibility. I am looking for the children You are giving me. Bless me to find them and bring Your Kingdom into their lives.

This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

- Sat. Oct 14, Matt 20-21 Sun. Oct 15, Matt 22-24 Mon. Oct 16, Matt 25-26
- Tue. Oct 17, Matt 27-28 Wed. Oct 18, Mark 1-2 Thur Oct 19, Mark 3-5
- Fri. Oct 20, Mark 6-7 Sat. Oct 21, Mark 8-9 Sun. Oct 22, Mark 10-12

Notes:

Dr. Tony Campolo is one of the most famous speakers and authors in America. His homemaker wife is less famous. She was once attending a faculty gathering at the University of Pennsylvania with her professor husband. A sociologist confronted her with the question, "And what is that you do, my dear?" Here's her reply: "I am socializing two homo sapiens in the dominant values of the Judeo-Christian tradition in order that they might be instruments for the transformation of the social order into the teleologically prescribed utopia inherent in the eschaton."
(<https://www.denisonforum.org/current-events/culture/my-greatest-gift-from-god/>)

The mission of God - how His Kingdom will come and will be done on earth, how the world is transformed, how people are saved in all meanings of the word; what He wants us to do/what the universe needs done.

Vehicle - instrument, means of accomplishing; **where** are we going and **how** are we going to get there

I. Groups.

Without mass, we wouldn't have art, science, medicine, invention, sports, etc. You can't do those things on a small scale.

"Blood is thicker than water." "the blood of the covenant is thicker than the water of the womb"
"I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God."

Spiritual family - family of faith, family of faithful, an extended family, a clan

The human family - all humanity, not an effective group
Communities - also not an effective group

Don't be an elective orphan, an orphan by choice.

II. The Parent. Also shepherd, elder, farmer, or fisher; all terms for the same basic thing, each with their own emphasis.

A biological mom and dad in relationship is still the best scenario.

Chris Tomlin doesn't want to be called "Worship Leader" but "Lead Worshipper".

Chris Pratt - "I accept the responsibility as your elder." 2018 MTV Movie and TV Awards.

Sheep don't know they are sheep. If you can choose to be a sheep, then you shouldn't. That is disobedience.

I asked God for people to disciple. He told me he was giving me ten - Zechariah 8:23

III. Parenting. Geezer - one who geezes. Parents give the family what grows the family.

Keep Track and Keep Touch - "Do you know where your children are?"

This is the only time "impress" (יִצְפֵּן) appears in the Bible. "To sharpen"

I have lists of people. "The list is life."

Rhythms include church, home devotions, home communion, prayer, worship, holidays.

