Diving Deeper // Family Part 1

Family Intro
Our greatest joys and our greatest heartaches can come from our families
The answer to "what is family?", is foundational to our faith
Scripture must be the authority we use to understand the design God has for family
Read: Psalm 127:1 // Psalm 35:27 // Psalm 32:8 // Psalm 11:3

Marriage
* Marriage is the foundations of the family
    * *"Marriage is the institution from which all other institutions come. The earliest education was done in the home as mothers and fathers instructed their children to eat, walk, speak, work, and do many other things. From this basic and natural responsibility have come all formal centers for learning: schools, academies, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. The earliest healthcare was developed in the home, then came hospitals, clinics and hospices. Marriage is the first and foundational institution which means that all other institutions are in one way or another built upon it."* James M. Boice
* Marriage is a relationship designed by God (rooted in creation; not culture)
    * *"The place to begin in any discussion of marriage is with the fact that marriage is God's idea and that it is a good idea. It is a good idea because it comes from God who never had a bad idea."* James M. Boice
* Marriage is a relationship between a man and woman: Genesis 2:18; Genesis 1:27
* Marriage is gender specific not gender neutral: Ephesians 5:31, Matthew 15:35-38, Mark 10:6-9, Luke 6:46-49
* Sexual preferences and desires do not override God's design: Ephesians 5:32
* Marriage wasn't designed for leaving, it was designed for staying: Genesis 2:24, Hebrews 13:4, Matthew 19:3-6
* Husbands love and honor your wives: Ephesians 5:25

Family
* Honor your children: Psalm 127:4,5
* Children honor your parents: Exodus 20:12, Ephesians 6:2-3
* Seek God Together
    * Harvard Study: 1200 families found that families who did the following stayed together:
        1) Pray Together
        2) Discuss the Bible Together
        3) Attend Church Together