

Sermon 8.23.26 - Family

August 18, 2026

FAMILY MATTERS

Craig Smith • August 23, 2026 • Family

God's wisdom for the family...

- **A refuge of safety** - *"He who fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge." (Prov. 14:26)*

Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened calf with hatred. (Prov. 15:17)

- **A learning center for life** - *"Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck." (Prov. 1:8-9)*

- **A launch-pad for ministry** - *"You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints." (1 Cor. 16:15)*

Make serving together an all-hands-on-deck experience -

"Shallum son of Hallohesh, ruler over a half-district of Jerusalem, repaired the next section with the help of his daughters." (Nehemiah

3:12)

A family pursuing God's wisdom...

- **Is submitted to God's authority** – *"Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in His ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons like olive shoots around your table. Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD."* (**Psalms 128:1-4**)
- **Is led with intentionality** – *"The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down."* (**Prov. 14:1**)
- **Fosters holiness, not just happiness** – *"Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him."* (**Prov. 22:15**)
- **Values character, not just accomplishment** – *"A wife of noble character is her husband's crown...The man of integrity walks securely."* (**Prov. 12:4a, 10:9a**)
- **Honors the aged** – *"The glory of young men is their strength, gray hair the splendor of the old."* (**Prov. 20:29**)

The years of godly giving will result in years of blessed receiving...

Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children. (**Prov. 17:6**)