

FOCUS FOR FAMILY

Family Anthem: Week Two

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- Last week we spoke about VISION and we gave homework calling you to select 3 key words you wanted to pursue as a family.
 - This week we want to show you how to FOCUS on those three words and pull the family together under your vision.

THE FAMILY SCHEDULE

- Why is it so difficult to focus on a family vision in our culture? We are too busy. Here are 6 reasons why this is so difficult to control:
- Time is limited. We all have the same amount per week- 168 hours/ 112 waking hours.
- Time is short. Psychologists tell us moral framework is set by age 11.
- Affluence brings opportunities, and parents are competitive.
- We confuse the goal. Is our Goal to raise a child that knows, loves and serves God or one who makes us proud?
- We don't stop to evaluate. There is a high cost with every activity.
- We don't see the fallout. High School counseling offices are filled with exhausted and anxious students.

JESUS ON TIME

- For families following Jesus, learning to manage time like Jesus did is critically important.
- Jesus said numerous times His time had not yet come. Finally going to the cross he said his hour had come. He was moving on a schedule.

JESUS ON TIME

Our question: Dear Jesus, what moved you? "FOR I HAVE COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN TO DO THE WILL OF GOD WHO SENT ME, NOT TO DO MY OWN WILL."

John 6:38

Our question: Dear Jesus why am I here on earth? "HE HAS CREATED US ANEW IN CHRIST JESUS, SO WE CAN DO THE GOOD THINGS HE PLANNED FOR US LONG AGO." *Ephesians 2:10*

Our families are called to love and good works and God has them planned for us. Let's walk in them.

FAMILY ON TIME

- In our family we want to glorify God by fulfilling the good works He has for us. Our family wants to fulfill our calling and leave a legacy for our future family to follow. How do we do that?

FAMILY ON TIME

1. In order to fulfill God's call for our family, "We must focus on our family's vision!"
 - Say 'yes' all you can but measure it against your vision statement. Here are sample questions to ask when focusing on your vision:

4 VISION QUESTIONS

1. Will this commitment detract from our ability to be (generous, loving, kind, christlike etc.) toward each other or those we are seeking to love?
2. Will this commitment allow us to follow-through on previous commitments we have made?
3. Will this commitment pull us apart or together as a family? (Club sports may not fit you!)
4. How will this commitment affect our margin as a family?

FAMILY ON TIME

2. In order to fulfill God's call for our family, "We must evaluate what goes onto our family's schedule!"
 - Depending upon the number of kids and their ages you must limit the amount of activity. Here is where saying "no" may be needed.
 - Consider activities which last into adulthood.
 - Do the math! At what cost for a scholarship or to turn pro?
3. In order to fulfill God's call for our family, "We must create family rhythms— dinner and church."
4. In order to fulfill God's call for our family, "We must establish our family's identity!"

Your family's identity in Christ is primary. You can't force a child to believe in Jesus but you can place so much kindling around them that by asking the Holy Spirit to ignite it, something good is bound to happen! A child's identity must be formed in the home and you want them to love home. Parents- your voice is more important than a youth pastor, coach, choir director, it's you who must lead them to Christ!