

Nurturing - Family on Mission

We are always a disciple to someone/something. We need to be intentional about our discipleship. If we are not intentional about being disciplined by God, we will be disciplined by the world around us, by culture. To whom are you a disciple of?

Q: How are you intentional about your own discipleship?

Nurture: to shape character, to feed, or to make healthy

It is never too late for you to nurture! There is always an opportunity to nurture! Whether you just had your first child or you have been a parent for decades - there is still time and hope!

Q: What does the spiritual atmosphere look like in your family?

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 8:29

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.

Q: How does my marriage align with the vision and values of Jesus? How does my parenting align with the vision and values of Jesus?

Jesus Core Values

Generosity	Worship
Love	Truth
Humility	Honor
Forgiveness	Serving

There is an enemy who is against your hope, purpose, and intention for your marriage and family!

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

John 10:10 (NLT)

The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NLT)

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe.

Q: How are you pursuing discernment in your life, marriage, family?

Read Romans 1 — Remember as you discuss this, to do so with grace and an openness to hear the heart and thoughts of others!

Q: What do you see in this chapter about how those in the Roman church were living? How does God respond? How does this parallel with the world we live in today?

Our culture puts creation at the center - Are you worshipping creation? Or are you worshipping the Creator? How does Jesus define His creation?

Healthy homes start with healthy marriages.

Ephesians 5:31-32

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

One Flesh Formation: What if I saw my spouse as an asset, not a liability, to my transformation?

Making Jesus my vision changes how I value my spouse!

The reason marriage is under attack is because the testimony of Jesus is at stake. Marriages biggest struggle? The idol of selfishness

Postures of Marriage Discipleship

1. Face to Face: Intentional conversations and dreaming together.
2. Back to Back: Praying together, speaking words of encouragement and joining community.
3. Arm in Arm: Serving together, finding a shared mission and ministry adventures together.

Intentional Marriage Questions

1. What characteristics of Jesus do you admire the most?
2. What's your favorite Psalm and why?
3. What's your favorite story of Jesus and why?
4. What areas of your life do you want to experience more of God's power?
5. When you get to heaven, what will be the first three questions you will ask God?
6. What dreams or desires do you have for serving God?
7. In what ways do you want to grow more spiritually in your life?

Challenge:

Pray & ask God for wisdom in knowing which of these to do this week.

- 1. Pursue having a face to face conversation with your spouse this week. Ask one of the intentional marriage questions!**
- 2. When you find yourself making agreements about all the ways your spouse lets you down, choose in that moment to instead Pray for your spouse - specifically that they would become the man/woman who God created them to be!**
- 3. Talk through with your spouse and/or family the values you want to claim as a family.**
- 4. Spend some time with God identifying how you can be intentional in discipling your children!**
- 5. Reach out to someone who may have had a hard time on Mother's Day. Let them know their struggle is seen and has value!**