

Welcome to **The Loft**

“Live @ The Loft”

Show #91, April 8, 2020 = **Series: The Focused Five = Fruitful Lives**

Scriptures & Strategies... TODAY: FAMILY

for living a fruitful life that is focused on the Father's will.



Family: Introduction

When you think of family, what do you think of?

Q: Family is certainly not dead in America, but it looks and behaves very differently than it used to. George Barna

Whether you have a positive set of experiences or negative... God gives us opportunities, like now to hit “Reset” / Retool Life!

What is the definition of family?

God created the idea of family, therefore, the Creator gets to define family not the created.

Q: “one man and one woman united in marriage for life and, if God so chooses, children either biological or adopted.”
(a synthesis of many Scriptures, summarizing what family is as God designed family to be) – Charles Stanely

***Luke 8: 19-21 = Jesus “Family”...**

19: Now Jesus' mother & brothers came to him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd.

20: Someone told him, “Your mother & brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.”

21: He replied, “My mother & brothers are those who hear God's word & put it into practice.”

Family: Scriptures...

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9 (ca: *Matthew 22: 36-40 = Life & Family... A life well lived, on God's definition of success.*)

4: “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

5: Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

6: These commandments that I give you today are to be upon 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.

8: Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

9: Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

Matthew 13: 1- 23 = The Parable of the Sower

23: “But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it.

He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

... **Limit Your “Life-Baggage”**... Learn from the good & the bad of family

Negative Life Math = Negative Results (*Galatians 5: 19-21*)

In choosing to not love God: Disobedience leads to a defeated and destructive life and legacy.

Positive Life Math = Positive Results (*Galatians 5: 22-23, 24-26*)

In choosing to love God & be loved by God: Obedience leads to opportunities, up to 30, 60, 100x's fruit!

Family: Strategies...

1:

Mark 1: 35

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Luke 5: 16

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Q: Pray together and read the Bible together. Nothing strengthens a marriage and family more.

Nothing is a better defense against Satan. Billy Graham

Q: Every Christian family ought to be, as it were, a little church, consecrated to Christ, and wholly governed by His rules.

Jonathan Edwards

LA: Pray that God's presence, peace and power are experienced in your life, because you pray consistently and expectantly.

LA: Create strategic prayer lists for you, your family, friends, church/ministry, etc... be specific, God gets glory when detailed.

2:

Eccles 5: 18-20

18: Then I realized that it is good and proper for a man to eat and drink, and to find satisfaction in his toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given him – for this is his lot.

19: Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work – this is a gift of God.

20: He seldom reflects on the days of his life, because God keeps him occupied with gladness of heart.

OBL: "Games Bag" – a fun factor for individuals & families

LA: Learn to play more and use play as a way to get to relax, retool and reconnect with those God has gifted you to love.

LA: Find ways to create a "Games Bag" or a list of "Game/Play" opportunities that are healthy for you & others to do.

LA: OBL/GAME = *Baseball Dice Game... Opportunity to play, during the "Safer at Home" season of life!*

3:

1 Corinthians 13: 6-7, 11

6: Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth.

7: It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

11: When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child.

When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.

James 1: 4

Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

LAX: A strong family takes a lot of work: Are you making your family stronger or weaker by your behavior/choices?

LA: Maturity in life, comes by way of persistent movement in the will of God for the glory of God = maturity in Christ.

There is no more important thing to persevere in, than persevering in areas God wants us to love well and live well.

Learn to love your family well by helping one another get stronger individually and as a family = the family wins together!

LA: Create some dreams as a family – possibly experiences you could pursue together, things to build/create at home...

When we know the dream we pursue together, God gives the strength to persevere together & stay together as a family.

4:

Proverbs 24: 3-4

3: By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established;

4: through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.

***Proverbs 22: 4-6 = (Parenting Powerhouse Scriptures)...**

4: Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth & honor & life.

5: In the paths of the wicked lies thorns & snares, but he who guards his soul stays far from them. (*Train kids to guard soul!*)

6: Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

5:

LAX: Have you taken the time to study how your family enjoy being loved, "their currency" not your "currency" but theirs...

The Five Love Languages: Brief Summary... (An Overview from: Gary Chapman's Book – *The Five Love Languages*)

1: Words of Affirmation = What "fills this person with love"... is positive words, encouragements, praise & blessings.

2: Physical Touch = What "fills this person with love"... is appropriate physical hugs, affection, "pats on the back", etc.

3: Quality Time = What "fills this person with love"... is focused time together, fun simply to be with those they love.

4: Acts of Service = What "fills this person with love"... is serving others or being served by others in ways that show love.

5: Gifts = What "fills this person with love"... is receiving gift(s) that have emotional value/thought to them.

... (CS: NOTES – Only)

6: Sabbath/Rest-Language = What do they like to do to truly rest/reflect/retool their life?

7: Play-Language = What do they like to do to enjoy playing, having "childlike" fun but not "childish" play?

SCOREBOARD

[Baseball Dice]

YOUR NAME OR TEAM	1 ST INNING	2 ND INNING	3 RD INNING	FINAL

LA: Baseball Dice Game... Play 3, 6 or 9 innings with 2 dice, a baseball field drawn on paper & use M&M's as base runners. When you roll the two dice, whatever the # is that is what play you play (Example: Roll a two ones for a total of 2 = a double).

2: Double... 3: Triple... 4: Single... 5: Wild Pitch (runners advance 1 base, if on base)... 6: Fly Out... 7: Home Run...
8: Walk... 9: Strike Out... 10: Double Play (if man on base, if not roll again)... 11: Foul Ball (roll again)... 12: Home Run

2nd

3rd

1st

Home