♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, February 7, 2016

"FAMILY MATTERS"

(Matthew. 22:36-40; 28:19-20)

Today we are beginning a series on the family. Through sermons, seminars, special events and discipleship opportunities we're going to dig into big issues of family. This morning we look at God's plan for the family. His plans may be bigger than you think.

Foundation #1: God created families to be		
Foundation #2: The biblical purpose of parenting is to		nd grand-
Foundation #3: God has designed the family	y as an	

"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, ESV).

"O my people, listen to my instructions. Open your ears to what I am saying, for I will speak to you in a parable. I will teach you hidden lessons from our past—stories we have heard and known, stories our ancestors handed down to us. We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord... so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments" (Psalm 78:1-5, 7, ESV).

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Foundation #1: God created families to be discipleship centers.

Foundation #2: The biblical purpose of parenting and grandparenting is to impress the hearts of children with a love for God.

Foundation #3: God has designed the family as an <u>essential engine</u> of reaching the world for Christ.

"I will bless those who bless you...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3, ESV).

"Honor your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:12, ESV).

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5, ESV).

"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, ESV).

"Take to heart all the words of warning I have given you today. Pass them on as a command to your children so they will obey every word of these instructions" (Deuteronomy 32:45-46, NLT). "And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel" (Joshua 2:10, ESV).

"O my people, listen to my instructions. Open your ears to what I am saying, for I will speak to you in a parable. I will teach you hidden lessons from our past—stories we have heard and known, stories our ancestors handed down to us. We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord... so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments" (Psalm 78:1-5, 7, ESV).

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers" (Malachi 4:5-6, ESV).

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20, ESV).

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself" (Acts 2:38-39, ESV).