

BALANCING ACT, Part 3
Loving Our Family
1 Timothy 5:8

"If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." 1 Timothy 5:8 (NIV)

72% of all men say they have difficulty balancing work and family

I. WHY FAMILY?

A. A FAMILY IS A _____.

"Reverence for the Lord gives a man deep strength; his children have a place of refuge and security."
Proverbs 14:26 (LB)

Types of Storms

1. _____

2. _____

"Two are better than one... If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him."
(GN) Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

3. _____

"One standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back to back and conquer..."
Ecclesiastes 4:12 (LB)

B. A FAMILY IS _____.

"May our sons in their youth be like plants that grow up strong." Psalms 144:12 (GN)

"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."
Ephesians 6:4

"Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with man." Luke 2:52

What You Learn From Your Family

"One generation makes known Your faithfulness to the next."
Isaiah 38:19 (LB)

"These commandments... impress them upon your children. Talk about them you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."
Deuteronomy 6:6-7

C. A FAMILY IS _____.

"Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love..." Ecclesiastes 9:9

"Be happy with your wife and find your joy with the girl you married." Proverbs 5:18 (GN)

"Children are a gift from God; they are his reward. Children are like sharp arrows... Happy is the man whose quiver is full of them!"
Psalms 127:3-5 (LB)

D. A FAMILY IS _____

"Stephanas and his family... were the first to become Christians in Greece and they are spending their lives helping and serving Christians everywhere." 1 Corinthians 16:15 (LB)

"He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly." Acts 10:2

"...the whole family was filled with joy because they had come to believe in God." Acts 16:34

"When God's children are in need...help them out! And get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night." Romans 12:13 (LB)

II. SURVIVING AND EVEN ENJOYING PARENTHOOD

A. ELIMINATE UNREALISTIC _____.

1. Misguided and demanding _____ expectations

"There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death." Proverbs 14:12 NRSV

2. Misinterpreted _____ expectations

Proverbs 31:10-31 -- The woman presented is a wealthy aristocrat who runs her household with the aid of servants.

3. Unreasonable _____ expectations

Research shows even when working outside the home mom is doing 2/3rd of home and child care duties, while dad and the kids do only 1/3rd of the work

B. Follow God's Four Basic Expectations

1. _____

"Teach the older women to train the younger women to love... their children." Titus 2:3,4 LB

- a. Negative feelings are normal.
- b. Mothers need support.

2. _____

"And you must think constantly about these commandments I am giving you today. You must teach them to your children and talk about them when you are at home or out for a walk; at bedtime and the first thing in the morning." Deuteronomy 6:6-7 LB

3. _____

"...tell your children and your grandchildren about the glorious miracles He (God) did.... and I will instruct them, so that they will learn always to reverence me, and so they can teach my laws to their children." Deuteronomy 4:9-10 LB

4. _____

"...Bring them up with the loving discipline the Lord himself approves, with suggestions and godly advice." Ephesians 6:4 LB

"If you refuse to discipline your son, it proves you don't love him; for if you love him you will be prompt to punish him." Proverbs 13:24 LB