

B. Things to do to make your family a place to play.

“A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.”
Proverbs 17:22

- Relaxed atmosphere
- Regular activities
- Real affection

IV. ENGAGE YOUR FAMILY AS A TEAM FOR MINISTRY

A. A home should be a launch pad of service for God.

“I urge you, brethren—you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints—”
I Corinthians 16:15

NOTE: Ministry begins first to those people inside the family and then extends to others who are outside the family.

B. Things to do to make your family a team for ministry.

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” I Pet. 4:10

- Every family member must discover their spiritual gifts.
- Every family member must dispense their spiritual gifts.
- Every family member must develop their spiritual gifts.

Choose God’s Design For Your Family

BEST RELATIONSHIPS EVER

Best Family Ever
Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. The quality of your relationships determines the quality of your life! But the reality is...

Relationships can be hard. You may be lonely and lack relationships. On the other hand you may have relationships, but they are often unhealthy.

But imagine a life filled with a positive network of people that provide mutual happiness. You having a web of relationships that provide comfort and encouragement.

“Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.”
I Thessalonians 5:11

God desires to strengthen your well being through relationships.

B. Attend this teaching series and discover how to apply simple steps from the Bible for your best relationships ever! Here are the relationships that we will explore during this series:

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| Feb 26 | Best Friendship Ever |
| Mar 5 | Best Marriage Ever |
| Mar 12 | Best Coworkers/Schoolmates Ever |
| TODAY | Best Family Ever |
| Mar 26 | Best Church Ever |
| Apr 2 | Best Love Ever |

C. Text: Joshua 24:14-18

God is the designer of the family.

HOW TO HAVE THE BEST FAMILY EVER

I. ESTABLISH YOUR FAMILY AS A SHELTER FROM STORMS

A. The home should be a refuge from tribulation.

"...In the world you will have tribulation;.." John 16:33b

- Change
- Failure
- Rejection

NOTE: Many homes are battle grounds.

B. Things to do to make your family a shelter from storms.

"In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge." Proverbs 14:26

- Hear
- Hug
- Help

II. EQUIP YOUR FAMILY AS A LEARNING CENTER FOR LIFE

A. The home should be a growth environment.

Jesus grew four ways in his home:

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." Luke 2:52

- Intellectually
- Physically
- Mentally
- Socially

B. The priority of learning is the Great Commandment.

Note: Some parents adopt the wrong philosophy that they will not impose their religious ideas on their children, but will let them choose their own path.

"5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Teach your children how to love God:

- Parent control – tell what to do.
- Self control – know what to do.
- God control – ask God what to do.

III. ENJOY YOUR FAMILY AS A PLACE TO PLAY

A. The home should be a habitat for happiness.

"3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; ..."

Psalm 127:3, 5a

NOTE: If your home is not a fun place then don't be surprised if your children don't come back very much after they leave home.