



Built for This - Part 2

TITLE

Family

WORD

Text: Mathew 7:24-27 NIV
The Wise and Foolish Builders

- Storms come to everyone's life
- What you build in life will be tested
- It does matter what you build your life upon

I. Family

- A. Definitions of:
 1. A basic social unit consisting of parents and their children, considered as a group, whether dwelling together or not.
 2. A social unit consisting of one or more adults together with the children they care for
 3. Any group of people closely related by blood or marriage as parents, children, uncles, aunts and cousins.
 4. A group of people forming a household, including parents and children.
- B. Family is the first context in which we get a definition of ourselves and others; it shapes our values and behaviors; and it's where we begin to understand the dynamics of relationships.
- C. Families can be our greatest source of joy or our greatest source of pain.
- D. Families are like branches on a tree. We grow in different directions yet our roots remain as one.
- E. In every conceivable manner, the family is a link to our past and bridge to our future. - Alex Haley

II. Drama in Biblical Families

- A. There were no perfect families in the Bible!
 - 1. Moses - was given away but raised by his mother for someone else
 - 2. David - overlooked and forgotten by his father
 - 3. Joseph - sold by his own brothers
 - 4. Isaac - repeats his fathers dysfunction of lying and telling a king that his wife was his sister (due to fear of being killed)
 - 5. Jacob - tricks his brother and father just to get ahead and his Mother is in on it!
 - 6. Naomi - her husband and two sons die in the middle of a famine
 - 7. Esther - is orphaned and raised by her uncle
 - 8. Jesus is abandoned for three days
- B. **Hebrews 11:7** “By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.”
NIV
- C. COVID 19 has isolated families
 - 1. The isolation has exposed fractures in families.
 - 2. We must build for the safety of families so that the pressure of the crisis does not exploit fractures within our family.

III. Fight For Our Families

- A. The enemy wants to destroy families
 - 1. **Nehemiah 4:12-20 NLT**
 - 2. Build something for the saving of your family.
 - 3. You also must fight for your family.
 - 4. Sometimes you have to build and fight at the same time.

IV. Habits of Healthy Families

- A. Move your family from weakness to strength
- B. Move from breakdown to breakthrough
 - 1. Healthy families express appreciation and affection for one another
 - a) Love must be communicated and demonstrated
 - b) Action: Show and tell someone that you love them this week.
 - 2. Healthy families have a strong commitment to one another
 - a) It takes commitment to build lasting relationships because it will not always be convenient or comfortable
 - b) Through times of disappointment, disagreement and discouragement you must be committed.

- c) *Action*: Be there for someone this week who's going through a tough time.
- 3. Healthy families spend enjoyable time with one another
 - a) Presence increases appreciation.
 - b) *Action*: Set aside time in your schedule to spend with another family member.
- 4. Healthy families manage stress, crisis and conflict effectively.
 - a) Every family has issues and goes through trouble. How you deal with it determines the difference.
 - b) *Action*: Choose to focus on the issue and not the person.
- 5. Healthy families maintain appropriate boundaries
 - a) Boundaries require clarity regarding roles and expectations.
 - b) *Action*: Have that tough conversation.
- 6. Healthy families give freedom to fail and grant forgiveness to one another
 - a) Wherever you hold a grudge the enemy has an advantage.
 - b) *Action*: Extend grace and forgiveness to someone.
- 7. Healthy families have faith as a foundation
 - a) What you build upon will determine your outcome.
 - b) *Action*: Pray together and pray for one another.
- c. **Acts 16:29-34** "The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household." And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God." **NLT**