

DOWNLOAD PDF GOD DESIGNED YOUR FAMILY TO BE A NEST OF HAPPINESS

Chapter 1 : The 31 Most Inspirational Family Quotes - Curated Quotes

In God Designed Your Family to be a Nest of Happiness, you will read a real story about a family whose members have been suffering from the curse of sin over generations. The story also provides a solid basis for a reflection on the concept of happiness.

We can read about that relationship in Genesis 2: This, of course, is the creation account of the first man and woman: When those children got married another family unit was formed. A family is a place where principles are hammered and honed on the anvil of everyday living All generations of families can be traced back to that first family in the Garden. Take a look at some uplifting Scripture quotes about family. For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him. And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. Abraham fathered Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife. All the descendants of Jacob were seventy persons; Joseph was already in Egypt. Then Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation. But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. A Promise of Adoption into the Family Ezekiel They shall be to you as native-born children of Israel. With you they shall be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. He is still in the miracle-working business, and His business is the business of transformation. It is one body, one family, one fold, one kingdom. It is one because pervaded by one Spirit. We are all baptized into one Spirit so as to become, says the apostle, on body. Here are some more Bible verses and pages about family that you might want to check out: Children shares Bible verses that talk about raising children illustrating the blessings that they bring.

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Chapter 2 : Lesson 7: God's Design for Marriage (Genesis) | www.nxgvision.com

The story of your family is so inspiring I hope I will be just as caring mother for my kids as you, If someday I will have kids and I will be strong enough to adopt a child from another country. You are very brave and caring and that's just amazing.

Whether a particular family is a nuclear family, a stepfamily, a single-parent family, or an empty-nest family, it usually consists of related people who care about each other. Regardless of type, all families also need to be nurtured and strengthened from time to time. This publication will offer some suggestions for improving and strengthening relationships in your family. What Makes a Family Strong and Successful? Learning Families are where we learn values, skills, and behavior. Strong families manage and control their learning experiences. They establish a pattern of home life. They select appropriate television programs. They guide their children into the world outside the home. They do not let social forces rule their family life. They involve themselves in neighborhood, school, government, church, and business in ways that support their family values. Strong families teach by example and learn through experience as they explain and execute their values. Loyalty Strong families have a sense of loyalty and devotion toward family members. The family sticks together. They stand by each other during times of trouble. They stand up for each other when attacked by someone outside the family. Loyalty builds through sickness and health, want and good fortune, failure and success, and all the things the family faces. The family is a place of shelter for individual family members. In times of personal success or defeat, the family becomes a cheering section or a mourning bench. They also learn a sense of give and take in the family, which helps prepare them for the necessary negotiations in other relationships. Love is at the heart of the family. All humans have the need to love and to be loved; the family is normally the place where love is expressed. Love is the close personal blending of physical and mental togetherness. It includes privacy, intimacy, sharing, belonging, and caring. The atmosphere of real love is one of honesty, understanding, patience, and forgiveness. Such love does not happen automatically; it requires constant daily effort by each family member. Loving families share activities and express a great deal of gratitude for one another. Love takes time, affection, and a positive attitude. Laughter is good family medicine. Humor is an escape valve for family tension. Through laughter we learn to see ourselves honestly and objectively. Building a strong family is serious business, but if taken too seriously, family life can become very tense. Laughter balances our efforts and gives us a realistic view of things. To be helpful, family laughter must be positive in nature. Laughing together builds up a family. Laughing at each other divides a family. Families that learn to use laughter in a positive way can release tensions, gain a clearer view, and bond relationships. Family members, usually the adults, must assume responsibility for leading the family. If no one accepts this vital role, the family will weaken. Each family needs its own special set of rules and guidelines. The guidelines pass along from the adults to the children by example, with firmness and fairness. Strong families can work together to establish their way of life, allowing children to have a voice in decision making and enforcing rules. However, in the initial stages and in times of crisis, adult family members must get the family to work together. Life Patterns of Strong Families In studies conducted in the United States and around the world several characteristics of strong families were found. Members of strong families are devoted to the well-being and happiness of the other members. They value family unity. Commitment serves as a firm foundation for strong family relationships. Members of strong families show and talk about their appreciation for one another. Along with our need for love, our most important human need is the need for appreciation. Some of why we work so hard in life is not so much motivation by money, power, or position; it is the desire to feel appreciated. And appreciation is vital in healthy families. Appreciation helps motivate all members to continue to behave positively toward one another. Appreciation in families means: Members of strong families work at developing good communication skills and spend a lot of time talking with each other. They talk about the small, trivial things as well as the deep, important issues of life. Communication is the lifeblood of

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relationships. It is the way that love and other emotions are expressed. Relationships are played out in the context of communication. We cannot help but communicate, and it is largely up to us whether the communication in our families will be effective or ineffective. Strong families spend timeâ€”quality time in large quantitiesâ€”with each other. Neither will small pieces of high-quality activity. Nurturing family relationships takes a lot of good times. Family memories are built around family activities, time spent together. Family time spent together: But what exactly are families to do when they are together? The answer is just about anything.

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Chapter 3 : Bible Verses About Family: 20 Uplifting Scripture Quotes

The good news comes from Jehovah, the happy God, who wants families to be happy. (1 Timothy) He originated www.nxgvision.com marriage is vital to family happiness because it provides a secure environment in which to raise children.

Hesitantly, you enter her office and sit down. Sadly, it will probably never happen. But, what would you say if I told you another way to increase your happiness the same amount as quadrupling your income? Putman, a professor of public policy at Harvard University, knows a way. He quantifies how marriage can impact happiness. Marriage can cause an increase in happiness equal to quadrupling your salary. I agree with one caveat. Happiness is not increased by any old marriage. Only healthy marriages increase happiness; unhealthy marriages, on the other hand, rob couples of happiness. So, if you want a marriage that increases happiness as much as quadrupling your income, build a healthy marriage. To help you do that, here are ten simple ways to build a healthy marriage. Share a hug and a kiss each time you reunite. Make it an intentional second oxytocin hug at least on time each day. Express gratitude for your spouse every day. Thank them for something they did, compliment something about their appearance, share a character trait you admire, etc. You get the idea. Look at your partner and listen when they talk to you. Put down the newspaper, get off the cell phone, look away from the TV, and look at your spouse. Let them know you understand. Do one nice thing for your spouse every day. Take out the garbage. Clean the kitty litter. Just do something nice! Let your spouse go first. Touch in and out of the bedroom. Celebrate the good moments of each day together. Take a moment at the end of each day to recall the good and joyous moments of the day. Ask your spouse what else you could do to make them feel more secure in your relationships, what you can do to show them how much you love them. Give those 10 tips a try and enjoy the increase in happiness.

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Chapter 4 : Our Story – This Gathered Nest

While it's easy to see why God designed an other-centered union for a me-centered world, living that way is a challenge. So when bills pile up, communication breaks down and you're just plain irritated with your husband or wife, Thomas offers these reminders to help ease the tension.

Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians Paul to the Thessalonians 4: Marriage recognizes the interpersonal relationship of man and woman, in which the well-being and self-realization of each partner become a priority for the other. Marriage affords a framework for the mutual love and self-giving of man and woman to each other in human sexuality, and in so doing provides for continuity of the human family. World religions and the Natural Law have always protected the sanctity of marriage and the family. Jesus Christ stressed the importance of the marriage bond by performing his first miracle at the Wedding Feast at Cana John 2: He supported marriage in his Ministry Matthew It is the Apostle Paul who identifies the marriage of man and woman with the unity of Christ and his Church Ephesians 5: Marriage provides a solid foundation for romantic love. The union of a man and a woman is natural. The natural language - indeed, the very biology - of the human body is such that the man gives to the woman and the woman receives the man. True love and friendship between a man and a woman grow into a desire for marriage. Marriage gives the couple the grace to grow into a union of heart and soul, and to provide stability for themselves and their children. Children are the fruit and bond of a marriage. The bond of marriage between a man and a woman lasts all the days of their lives, and the form of the ceremony consists of the mutual exchange of vows by a couple. The man gives the woman a ring, but often there is a mutual exchange of rings. The Church celebration and requirements vary with each particular faith. In the Sacrament of Marriage, both members of the couple have been baptized. In the Catholic and Jewish faiths, the couple marry each other through an exchange of solemn vows and rings, with the priest or rabbi serving only as a witness. During the Middle Ages and in times of persecution, such as in England, Ireland, and the British colonies such as Maryland Colony, where public Catholic ceremonies were forbidden, clandestine marriages were considered valid. The marriage could later be blessed from the beginning with a Catholic priest as witness. In many Protestant and Eastern rites, the minister himself marries the couple by pronouncing the couple man and wife after the exchange of vows and rings. The marriage is later sealed during the honeymoon through consummation of the marriage act. Sacred Scripture begins with the creation of man and woman in the image and likeness of God, and concludes with a vision of the "wedding-feast of the Lamb" Revelation Joseph listened to the angel and accepted his divine mission by taking Mary as his wife and becoming the foster-father of Jesus Matthew 1: Augustine wrote that the true basis of married love is the attachment of hearts. What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Paul to the Corinthians 7: This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church. In any case, each one of you should love his wife as himself, and the wife should respect her husband. Paul to the Ephesians 5: How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. The Holy Family is our best example of a loving family. The family is a community of life and love, founded upon marriage, to protect each family member and to communicate love. Marriage provides commitment and security to each member of the family. A family gives you your identity and background, and a sense of belonging. Within our family we are able to share our daily experiences, and give our life meaning. The family is there to celebrate birthdays, holidays, and those important passages in life. The joy of a new baby entering your world is overwhelming. The family is there when you fall, to protect and support you in times of hardship. Your family is an opportunity to grow in virtue, such as love, generosity, and, yes, patience! And one quickly learns that forgiveness is the key to peace. A child is a blessing from God! We learn in the New

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Testament that Jesus Christ treasured children in his midst, and in fact said that we must become like children to enter the Kingdom of Heaven Matthew Remembering a birthday is so very important. Mothers and fathers complement each other in love and the raising of children in a natural community. The traditional view of the man as head and woman as heart has somewhat given way to a blending of roles in Western society, although mothers and fathers contribute in a different way to their children. Mothers are gentle and receptive, give birth, nurse, and offer guidance and wisdom in an intuitive and sensitive manner. Fathers have physical strength and provide safety, tend to solve problems in an analytical fashion, teach survival skills and play sports, and serve as a role model for both sons and daughters. Relationships between generations give the child a true sense of community. When grandparents are ill or dying, grandchildren see their parents care for them, teaching them to seek not only their own good but also that of others. A young family is especially lots of fun. All of us would play baseball in the back yard. Everyone liked to dance together in the family room to some of the latest songs. We enjoyed playing board games. One of our favorite family games was a version of "Hide and Go Seek in the Dark" - we would put on the theme song from Close Encounters of the Third Kind while everyone would hide, and when the music stopped, the person who was it would look for everybody with a flashlight. Dinnertime together was a chance to pray and review the day, as well as a time to laugh. After bedtime stories, our children were very good about saying prayers before going to sleep. Sunday was our family day. We would start the day all going to Mass. Then we would go out to dinner and take a ride, and in the summer, we would go to the beach and pick up supper and ice cream on the way home. The family is the principal school of virtues which are necessary for every society. The Bible offers some excellent advice on raising children, advice that our permissive society would be wise to heed! Paul to the Ephesians 6: Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged. Paul to the Colossians 3: Churchill Livingstone, Elsevier, Orlando, Florida, The Nature of Love. The Norton Shakespeare, New York, , Best Poems of the English Language. HarperPerennial, New York, , AA Knopf, New York, Music by Hoagy Carmichael, , and words by Mitchell Parish, Written by Jesse Belvin, Love is a Many Splendored Thing. Time in a Bottle. Written by James Joseph Croce, My Heart Will Go On. Theme Song from Titanic. Songwriter, James Horner, Would You Go With Me. Written by Drew Pearson and Greg Holden, Heath Company, Boston, , Franciscan Herald Press, Chicago, Original Publication, Copenhagen, Denmark, First published in Ignatius Press, San Francisco, Harcourt-Brace, Orlando, Florida, Pauline Books and Media, Boston, , , Mary, Mother of God. Ignatius Press, San Francisco, , The Privilege of Being a Woman. Close Encounters of the Third Kind. The Gospel of Life, the encyclical Evangelium Vitae.

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Chapter 5 : Purpose of Family - Happiness in Family Life

The world and your personal and family life can seem to you to be in increasing commotion. My reassurance is this: the loving God who allowed these tests for you al so designed a sure way to pass through them.

Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing in the Lord. In the Scripture, there are only four chapters without sin Genesis 1â€”2 and Revelation 21â€”22 , and therefore even the Scripture has many tragic stories about families. It shows the devastating effects of sin on the family. Adam and Eve sinned, and Adam responded by blaming his wife. They parented two male children, and one of the sons killed the other. Jacob married several wives like his grandfather. His twelve sons eventually sold their younger brother into slavery. David too espoused many wives and his son raped his sister. When we consider the biblical narrative, we see many family relationships that were broken by sin. In fact, today we even see the effects of sin in the redefinition of marriage. In some cultures men take many wives and in others homosexual marriage is acceptable. Are the relationships I have with my family a proper reflection of my heavenly standing in Christ? Listen to what he says: When a believer was saved, he was spiritually identified with Christ. He died with Christ; he rose from the dead with Christ. He is now seated with Christ in heavenly places Eph. However, this position should not simply be a mental note or point of theology for a Christian; it should radically change his life. It should change the way a person thinks. Paul says to think on things above and not on the things of the earth v. This position in Christ should affect every thought. Paul tells the church to take off the old clothing of sin and put on the new clothing of righteousness, which fits our heavenly position in Christ. Put on love, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, bearing with one another, etc. The Christian must let the peace of Christ rule in his life. We should make every decision based on the reality of whether this decision will disrupt our peace with Christ and his body. We must let the Word of Christ dwell richly in us. It must be our desire to know the Word of God more daily and to allow it to overflow in our lives. We also must do everything in the name of the Lord. We must seek his glory in everything we do. These are the priorities of the heavenly citizen. How should my position in Christ affect my family life? What are the responsibilities of each member of the family according to Paul? However, to have order in the military, authority must exist in the relationship or chaos will ensue. In the same way, when God made the husband and wife relationship, he made it with order so that it would function properly. Submission does not imply that the wife is less than the husband, for Scripture clearly proclaims the equality of all in Christ. However, our equality and unity in Christ does not remove our roles. What Galatians teaches does not change the fact that the slave was still supposed to submit to and obey his master cf. That was his role even though he was equal with the master in his standing before God. Some in the liberation movement take Galatians 3: They say women no longer need to submit to their husbands, or that women do not need to practice submission in the church 1 Tim. This greatly damages the teachings of Scripture. They are meant to fit together and not contradict one another. Why is the woman called to submit to the man? How is this reflected in the rest of Scripture? The answer to this goes back to the creation story. God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit being one. In marriage, the male and female together as one are a reflection of the Trinity. How do we see this? In addition, a crucial aspect of his deity is authority and submission in the Godhead, which is also reflected in the marriage union. God is the head of Christ. He obeys the Father. In a similar vein, when God made male and female in his image, he put authority and submission in that relationship. The marriage relationship is a reflection of the Trinitarian relationship. This unity and authority in the marriage is a reflection of how mankind is made in the image of God. With that said, sin terribly distorted the image of God in man. We see the effects of this corruption specifically in the marriage union right after the fall. Look at what God prophesies as a consequence to marriages in Genesis 3: Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you. Does this mean that because of sin the woman would naturally want to serve her husband? It actually means the opposite. We see this word used in Genesis 4: She would seek to manipulate

him in order to get her own way. Also, the man, instead of loving his wife as we will see in the next passage Col. He would seek to dominate her. In fact, in 1 John 4: In the same way, as a husband I am not called to demand that my wife submit to me. I am to love her, care for her, encourage her to grow in God, and serve her. My wife is to submit to me willingly. I cannot force it. At the fall, marriage was broken. Submission in the context of a loving relationship was destroyed, and as a result we see brokenness in the majority of marriages. Over fifty percent of marriages end in divorce. The wife tries to control the husband, and the husband tries to rule and dominate the wife. In fact, marriage is becoming redefined totally as no longer simply between one man and one woman. The image of God has been totally distorted and the consequences are disorder in our society. If the home is broken, then you can be sure the education system is broken, and the government is broken since the home is the foundation of society. God started his building of a community on the earth with a marriage, and when the marriage does not work correctly everything else becomes distorted. He was never inferior or less in comparison to God the Father. However, he willfully and joyfully submits to the Father. In the same way, the wife must submit to her husband because this is fitting in the Lord. What are some common reactions in society to this teaching? Why is the submission of the wife to her husband so important? What about the role of the husband? Paul says to the husbands that they should love their wives. Now, it should be known that in the ancient context this was a pretty radical statement. It pushed against the norms of society. William Barclay describes both the Jewish and Greek ancient context in reference to women in his commentary on Colossians. Look at what he says: She had no legal rights whatever. For instance, under Jewish law, a husband could divorce his wife for any cause, while a wife had no rights at all in the initiation of divorce; and the only grounds on which a divorce might be awarded her were if her husband developed leprosy, gave up his beliefs or sexually assaulted a virgin. In Greek society, a respectable woman lived a life of entire seclusion. She never appeared on the streets alone, not even to go shopping. Complete servitude and chastity were demanded of her; but her husband could go out as much as he chose and could enter into as many relationships outside marriage as he liked without incurring any social criticism. Under both Jewish and Greek laws and custom, all the privileges belonged to the husband and all the duties to the wife. She was a piece of property meant to serve the husband. The husband was commanded to love his wife, which was radical. He is called to love like Christ. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

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Chapter 6 : happiness | Family by God's Design

Tree of Life Family Wall Plaque \$ "Like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one."The Tree of Life demonstrates the ways we are all connected.

But not many of you got the thing assembled without having to dig out the instruction manual! Most of us plunged in without carefully reading the instruction manual, confident that we could figure it out. This text describing the original marriage is the basis for almost everything else the Bible says about marriage. The text teaches us that: God designed marriage to meet our need for companionship and to provide an illustration of our relationship with Him. This caring, personal God knew that the man He created had a need, and so He took action to meet that need. God designed marriage to meet the human need for companionship. This is the first time God says that something in His creation is not good: What more could you want? Not according to God! But God acknowledges our need not only for fellowship with Him, but also with a life partner. This is not to say that every person needs to be married. Everyone spends many years of life as a single person. God has called some to remain single 1 Cor. Nor is it to say that marriage will meet all our needs for companionship. Married people need friends of the same sex. But it is to say that a main reason God designed marriage was to meet the human need for companionship. First, we must affirm: That means that He knows best how it should operate. His Word gives us the principles we need for satisfying marriages. Since God designed marriage, it takes three to make a good marriage: God, the man, and the woman. For a Christian to marry an unbeliever is not only to disobey God; it is to enter marriage lacking something essential. Marriage has been described as a triangle with God at the top: The further each moves from God, the further they move from each other. As soon as Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they experienced alienation from each other and Adam began blaming Eve for his problems 3: Broken marriages always involve at least one partner moving away from God. The Hebrew word is not demeaning. That verse alone destroys the feminist view that there are no distinctions based on gender. The fact that God created the woman as a helper points to her supportive role to her husband, even before the fall. But at the same time, there is no basis for the view that men are superior to women. The picture is that the woman is the missing part of the man. Just as a jigsaw puzzle is incomplete if half the pieces are missing, so a man is incomplete without his wife. God designed it so that the man needs the woman and the woman needs the man see 1 Cor. Both are equal persons and yet have distinct roles to fulfill. God made Adam out of the dust 2: I believe God did it to show Adam that his wife was a part of him, equal with him, not a lower creation. A man is to cherish his wife as his own flesh Eph. Before God created Eve he put Adam through the exercise of naming the animals 2: Some critics allege that these verses are out of context. There is no basis for that assertion. But why this strange exercise of naming the animals right here? God had a lesson to teach Adam. By naming all the animals, Adam discovered that for every animal there were both male and female. After a few dozen cases--male and female aardvarks, God first made Adam feel the need for a wife. Only a woman could. God sometimes makes us endure loneliness so that when the need is met, we appreciate it more. I felt the need to get married at The Lord made me wait until just before my 27th birthday. By then I really felt the need. But I also deeply appreciate my wife. I remember how lonely I felt all those years. God prepares us to receive His gifts and then provides for our needs. We need to thank God for the partner He has given us and express our appreciation to that partner. God designed marriage, including your marriage. This account of the first marriage also plainly teaches that God designed marriage to include sex. Many Christians have ungodly notions about sex. Some think that it was the original sin. I read of one pastor and his wife who announced to their congregation that they would be adopting their first son. Since she was built by God, you could safely say that she was well-built! She was a real beauty. Rather, God brought her to him. Picture Adam waking up and wondering what the funny feeling in his side was. These are the first recorded words of the first man. They were not quite as mild as the various translations indicate. A more literal rendering of the original Hebrew is: Jamieson, Fausset, Brown, another commentary

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from Victorian times, say it is emphatic: Remember, Adam had been looking through all the animals for one corresponding to him and had come up empty. He recognized that Eve was a part of him and named her accordingly: These verses teach us something important about God: He is not opposed to our enjoyment of sex within marriage. He designed it and gave it to Adam and Eve. Satan tries to malign the goodness of God by making us think that God is trying to take our fun away by restricting sex to marriage. But God knows that it creates major problems when we violate His design for His gift. In the context of marriage, we can thankfully enjoy what God has given. God designed marriage to meet our need for companionship. God did not create a father and mother for Adam, nor a child, but a wife. A man must leave father and mother in order to cleave to his wife to establish a one flesh relationship. This means that the marriage relationship is primary, not the parent-child relationship. The parent child relationship must be altered before the marriage relationship can be established. The cord must be cut. But it does mean that a person needs enough emotional maturity to break away from dependence upon his parents to enter marriage. And parents need to raise their children with a view to releasing them. It is not helping the children, either. The best way to be a good parent to your children is to be a good husband to their mother or a good wife to their father. Marriage must be primary. This follows from it being the primary relationship. Your children are with you in the home a few years; your partner is with you for life. This means that the marriage relationship must be built primarily on commitment, not on feelings of romantic love. Romantic love is important, but the foundation of marriage is a commitment of the will. It is a covenant before God Mal. Commitment is what holds a couple together through the difficulties that invariably come. A Christian couple should never use the threat of divorce as leverage in a conflict. One man, one woman for life. Although God tolerated polygamy in Old Testament times, it was not His original intention. God easily could have created many wives for Adam, but He did not. This means that when you get married, you give up close friendships with women other than your wife. You give up your freedom to go out with the guys whenever you choose.

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Chapter 7 : Strengthening Family Relationships

We are to focus on God and God alone, and seek after holiness (without which no one will see God - Hebrews) and as a by-product, peace and happiness may well follow. But we are never told to seek after it, put it first, or to believe that we can somehow find it by focusing on our self.

What is the purpose of family? Families are where we connect ourselves in relationships to past, current, and future generations. Our families are where we experience our biggest triumphs and our deepest vulnerabilities—and they are where we have the greatest potential to do good. We believe the family is divine in nature and that God designates it as the fundamental building block of society, both on earth and through eternity. As such, it becomes the foundation for civilization and a sanctuary for the individual. It is where we learn the social graces of loyalty, cooperation, and trust. There is a universal desire for oneness among people—we want to belong. For the fortunate among us, that desire began with loving parents and siblings in a home that was equal parts refuge and laboratory for experimenting with our potential, our beliefs, and our identity. Those who had less than this ideal situation growing up still have the capacity to forge families of their own making. One of the blessings of belonging to a family is the inspiration to make choices beyond self-interest and immediate gratification. The family can encourage our commitment to individuals, communities, and God. To help emphasize the important role of the family, a modern Prophet and Apostles revealed *The Family: A Proclamation to the World* to help strengthen the family and explain its divine nature and purpose. One way Mormons demonstrate this family focus is with a practice they call family home evening. For this evening, families gather together weekly on a designated day usually Monday in their homes to share music, lessons, scripture, stories, fun activities, and prayer, with the goal of strengthening their relationships. They share wisdom, comfort, and laughter and ensure that the lives of their progenitors continue to influence the coming generations. Mormons make a dedicated practice of doing genealogy and creating family histories, thereby connecting together generations that would otherwise not know each other. In over 4, family history centers operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints around the world, the fabric of humanity is being woven together through formal record keeping. The Church records important dates and other information about those who have died, stores it, and makes it accessible to the public. This practice allows Mormons to identify their deceased ancestors so they can perform ordinances for them in the temple, a holy place where worthy Church members make sacred commitments to God and perform sacred acts, such as baptism by proxy for the dead. These ordinances on behalf of the deceased allow those who were unable to perform saving earthly rites for themselves to receive them in the afterlife. These acts of service permanently bind the generations of humanity to each other and ultimately create oneness in the family tree of humankind. It is a beautiful, massive tree—seemingly without limits—and one that has room enough for every root, branch, limb, and leaf. Our universal desire to belong exists for good reason; it exists because we do belong.

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Chapter 8 : Happiness Quotes - BrainyQuote

By God's design, the relationship between husband and wife is actually the first family unit. We can read about that relationship in Genesis and This, of course, is the creation account of the first man and woman: Adam and Eve.

We talk a lot about our personal calling and God-given dreams, but have you ever stopped to consider that God has a purpose for your family? I recently heard it argued that my generation makes an idol of the family. Our intentions might be right – we see how important it is to establish healthy relationships within our families, to be fully present for our children, and to encourage them in their gifts – but family is about so much more than sporting events and family game nights! God instituted families for a specific purpose, and He has a specific call for every family! Among other Scripture passages, Deuteronomy 6 reminds us as parents that we are called to impress the hearts of our children with a love for God, teaching them diligently through everyday living – family discipleship. 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 Deut. Disciple-making seems to be all the rage these days. Often in our search, we miss the glaring truth that God has already solved that problem! He just has another name for them. God created families as a vehicle to advance the gospel and fulfill the Great Commission! All throughout the pages of Scripture we see family as a multi-generational plan for our world! As a family, I want to live a life that is more than going through the motions, a life that is more than just memories pasted inside a scrapbook or liked on Facebook and Instagram. I want my family to live authentically and, together, grow into the likeness of Christ and authentically share the Good News of Jesus with all those around us. And I want that for each of your families, too. Friends, we do not live to glorify our families; our families live to glorify God in this generation and each one to come. God is for the family. He is for you, and I am, too. Together for the Kingdom, Photo Credit: Unlimited Kingdom have most profoundly impacted me and those thoughts are reflected here. The book is weighty in areas, but it is rooted in Scripture and very thorough.

Chapter 9 : LOVE, MARRIAGE, AND FAMILY

I believe in God, family, truth between people, the power of love. - Michael Landon When we think of our family, our spouse, parents, or children, let us see them as a gift from God.