



The Centrality of the Home in Ministry CRCC Bible Study, June 21, 2017

It's nearly impossible to overestimate the intent, power, and authority of the Christian, godly home. The home is a "biblical jurisdiction" given by God and has certain responsibilities, including hospitality, overseeing education, and the generational provision for family. (PB p94)

But critical to our discussion tonight (as it relates to CRCC's vision) is this: **when one looks to Scripture for the foundational precepts concerning ministry, the home is central!**

- From the beginning, God created a family (a home). (Gen 1:26-28)
- God wants fathers (and mothers) to teach their children (Deut 6:1-12; Ps 78; Eph 6:4)
- God wants the home to be a place of hospitality and worship (1 Tim 3:2; Rom 12:13; Col 3:14-17)
- God wants the home to be central in sharing the Gospel and making disciples! (below)

Key thoughts to consider:

1. As a family is disciplined and becomes more like the Lord, that family begins to take on His character. They begin to love what He loves and hate what He hates. They begin to see through "Jesus" as opposed to "Please-Us" lenses.
2. As Christ becomes Lord and King of the home, families begin to see themselves as citizens of an eternal Kingdom.
3. As a family begins to love God with everything they have, they begin to love others as well, that love drives them to take up Christ's cross (as every disciple must!)
4. The reformed family begins to see that a multigenerational vision involves not just **preaching the gospel to its progeny, but also to the populace**. We cannot declare we've been faithful if we haven't tried to liberate men and women from darkness.

Ten Ways Family Discipleship creates more love for the Lost

1. Immersion in the **Scriptures** as Families creates more love for the Lost!
2. The Building of a Biblical **Worldview** creates love for the Lost!
3. A Renewed desire to **obey** Scripture creates love for the Lost!
4. The Study of Doctrine and **Catechism** creates love for the Lost!
5. The Prophetic role of a **Father** in discipleship cultivates love for the Lost!
6. The Tender Instruction of a Godly **Mother** creates love for the Lost!
7. The Blessing of Family **Prayer** creates love for the Lost!
8. The Simple Faith of maturing Christian **Children** creates love for the Lost!
9. The Blessings of **Hospitality** creates love for the Lost!
10. Doing **Ministry** as a Family creates love for the Lost!

The Bottom Line:

- **Eternity becomes VERY REAL to a family being disciplined. The Dominion Mandate becomes VERY real to the family being disciplined. Both the command to take dominion and the reality of hell and judgment move a godly family to action.**
- Then, this humble, God-fearing family begins to understand its role in discipling others. The environment is perfect for that work! And God Himself begins to use family in the role for which He ordained it; the discipling and releasing of fully trained youth, and along with the church, the transformation of communities, cities, and nations.

Let it be so Lord Jesus. Amen.