

The God-given purpose of families
1 Timothy 3:4-5; 14-15

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Have you ever taken the time to identify the God-given purpose of your family?
2. What do you think some of the side-effects are if you have only a partially clear view of what God's purpose is for the family? Do you think we would be more prone to shaping it by cultural cues? Why or why not?
3. Do you see the connection that the Bible seems to make between the church and a family? Look up these passages as well: 1 Peter 4:17; Galatians 6:10; Ephesians 2:19 and compare them with Mark 6:4, Acts 11:14; Hebrews 11:7. Note the ones that refer to the family units and the ones which refer to believers in the church.
4. Do you agree that the purpose of a Christian family is to be the community in which we experience the blessing of God through singing praises, teaching his word, prayer, and applying the gospel for the salvation and sanctification of sinners?
5. What if every family worshipped God daily and taught their children the gospel? What would that mean for the church, society, and the kingdom?
6. If it is true, why do you think that it is so easy to sin against our own family members? Think about the immediate effect of sin in Genesis 4 with Cain and Abel.
7. Why do you think that sharing our lives together with other believers is important? How does it relate to the way the NT views the church? See Hebrews 3:12-14