

Your Action Plan and Commitments Following This Weekend

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Developing a Family Mission Statement

A family effort must involve all members to produce something meaningful to everyone. Here are some suggestions for developing a family mission statement.

1. *First, consider goals.*

What does the family stand for?

What values does the family live by?

What is the desired outcome for the family?

What Scripture summarizes the family intent?

2. *Second, conceptualize the statement.*

The family can start to outline a statement that might include phrases similar to these: The family stands for ... living by the values of ... the family needs are address by ... and tries to resolve problems by ... The family will be striving to make time for ... and place less emphasis on ... The goal for the future is to ... and ultimately to live together in heaven. The Scripture verses that guide our efforts are . . .

Examples:

Our family will share the love, grace and mercy of Jesus Christ with each other, extended family, neighbors, and the community, as we go through life.

Our family lives to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, sharing His mercy and offering His salvation to all who will give us the opportunity.

This family exists to live the great commandments and fulfill the Great Commission, beginning in our home and extending to every arena of life.

Our family will work, play, pray, and study God's Word together with the goal of becoming Christ-like and sharing the love of Jesus will all those around us.

The mission of our family is to share the way of salvation through Jesus Christ with a lost and hurting world. We will do this by modeling a Christ-like life first in our home, living the attitude and actions of Jesus before each other.

Adapted from Dave Earley & David Wheeler, *Evangelism Is ... How to Share Jesus With Passion and Confidence* (Nashville: B & H, 2010), 316.

Plans and Commitments

My Plans and Commitments Related to Heart Connections with My Children

My Plans and Commitments Related to Repairing Heart Connections

My Plans and Commitments Related to My Own Spiritual Life

My Plans and Commitments Related to Leading My Children Spiritually

Powerful Parenting Resources

Bettis, Chap. *The Disciple-Making Parent: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Raising Your Children to Love and Follow Jesus Christ*. Diamond Hill Publishing, 2016.

Your children will either live forever with Jesus or apart from Him. In today's hostile culture, you must have a strategy. *The Disciple-Making Parent* will give you confidence in your journey. The book offers faithful and compelling biblical advice for parents, reminding them that their ultimate responsibility is to disciple their children for the glory of God.

Rienow, Rob. *Healing Family Relationships*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 2020.

Every family is hurting, and the wounds that come from our relatives can be deeper than all others. Conflict within a family can range from daily frictions and annoyances to rage and hatred and eventual estrangement. We want things to be different but have no idea where to start.

After 25 years of ministering to families, Rob Rienow believes reconciliation is at the heart of the gospel--reconciliation with God and one another. You will come away with specific steps to take in your relationships with your family members to pursue peace and healing in your homes. Each chapter includes key biblical examples as well as present-day stories of families

who have experienced God's help and healing--including the author's own miraculous healing of his relationship with his father.

Rienow, Rob. *Visionary Parenting*. Nashville: Randall House, 2009.

Readers will capture a fresh, God-sized vision for their family. It begins with understanding God's purpose for the family and taking an honest look at the current state of the home. The author shares foundational truth that God created the family to ensure that the next generation grows up to know, love, and serve Him. He reminds readers of God's instructions given to parents in Deuteronomy 6:5-7 that will transform your home.

Flores, Victor. *Raise to Release: A Missional Mandate for Parents*. Houston, TX: Lucid, 2015.

If parents are indeed warriors, how then do they raise arrow-children in such a way that they will, through their Gospel-saturated lives, make the most impact for the gospel of Christ?

In "Raise to Release," Victor and Esther Flores invite readers to consider the implication of the imagery of children as arrows has on parenting, world evangelism, and the glory of God. Their prayer is that this book will awaken parent-warriors to build their homes with a clear target, a focused aim, and arrow-children who are shaped and released to have an eternal impact for the fame of our King!

Tripp, Tedd. *Shepherding a Child's Heart*. Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 2005.

Shepherding a Child's Heart is about how to speak to the heart of your child. The things your child does and says flow from the heart. Luke 6:45 puts it this way: "...out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks." Written for parents with children of any age, this insightful book provides perspectives and procedures for shepherding your child's heart into the paths of life. Dr. Tedd Tripp is pastor of Grace Fellowship Church in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

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