



THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE IN YOUR FAMILY

It is fitting that as we head into the holiday season that we look at the difference you make in your family. Of all the good that you can do for you family, the greatest is helping them spiritually.

“Home for the holidays,” is not a pleasant thought for some. What makes it difficult?

It is often difficult to talk to our family about spiritual things. Why?

The reminder from Esther puts three important thoughts before us:

1. If nothing is done, my family may _____
2. Maybe God has placed me in this situation for this _____
3. God is _____ on me and my family _____ me to show them Jesus

Esther 4:14 “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”

There are many examples in Scriptures of the positive spiritual impacts upon the family:

- King Lemuel’s _____ (Prov 31:1)
- Timothy’s mom and _____ (2 Tim 1:5)
- _____ whose husbands were not Christians (1 Pet 3:1)
- Man cured of demons was to “go home to your _____” and report what great things God has done (Mk 5:19)
- Andrew found first his _____ Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (Jn 1:41)
- Elders are to have children who _____ (Titus 1:6)
- _____ are to bring their children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6:4)

A Dozen Things Before You Gather:

1. Carry the proper _____ and _____ of voice
2. Be aware of how _____ you are
3. Establish _____
 - some people make no _____ to get along
 - some we have very little in _____ with
 - some relationships are _____ & _____
4. Show the _____
5. Answer questions with _____ and the _____
6. Jesus didn’t come from a _____ family
 - we think we are the only one with a weird family
7. If things are wonderful, be _____
 - if they are not wonderful, be the _____ you can
8. Little ones will long _____ family gatherings
9. Not everyone _____ to be there nor do they _____ the holidays
10. Set the _____
11. Some are never _____ and never _____
12. God loves each and every one of us

It is not uncommon for our grown siblings to have no common interest in God or else it is a distorted view. What can be done?