

Theme

Family Matters:
A Series on Family

THINK ABOUT THIS:

Sometimes family can be a little messy. And when it comes to living out our faith in our family, it can be even messier. That's why in this series, we're talking about how when it comes to your faith and your family, love matters most. No matter how challenging family life can be—and let's be honest—it isn't always easy—it's important to remember that how we love others in the midst of mess matters most.

Week One

John 13:35; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

When it comes to your faith and your family, love matters most.

Week Two

Hebrews 11:20

Your family matters even though it's fractured.

Week Three

Ecclesiastes 3:8; Isaiah 43:2

When your family changes, your mindset matters.

Week Four

1 Samuel 18:3

It matters to have more people than your family.

REMEMBER THIS

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
John 13:35 NIV



Morning Time

Find a picture of your family (it can be older or recent) that captures a joyous occasion with your family. Write a short note on the back of the picture sharing why this picture is special to you. Use the space to speak positively about the family and your teenagers role in it. Share the picture with your teen by putting it where they will see it in the morning, either under their keys, near their shoes, on top of their backpack, or on the bathroom mirror.



Meal Time

Ask your teen who some of their closest friends are, and other adults who they look up to and have become like family. Invite 1-2 of those people over for dinner. Spend time getting to them. You could also get the adults in your teenager's life a gift as a thank you for investing in your teen's life. If you can't get together, schedule a zoom hang out time with them. Or, simply talk at dinner about what you love about the people who are like a bonus family to your teenager.



Their Time

Next time your teen mentions frustrations with your family, allow time for them to share in a respectful way. Maybe share a time when you were frustrated with your own family, allowing them to know you get their frustrations. Then, ask your teen to think about ways they could change the situation. Encourage your teen to think of ways that they have control over their thoughts, actions, words, and perspectives. Share ways you can influence and change the situation as well.



Bed Time

Before your teen heads off to bed, ask them what is one thing they wished your family did more or less of. To the best of your ability, try to make the time this week to do more or less of what your teenager suggested. If your teenager suggested something that can't be pulled off in a week, get creative about trying to understand WHAT your teen liked about that thing and what you can do this week to experience the “what” in a more creative way. Brainstorm ideas together!