

appnotes

DAY 1

READ EPHESIANS 5:25-33

While work is a way to provide for your family, providing is not all we are called to do. Paul reminds us that husbands and wives have an obligation to love one another. Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church—giving up His very life for it. Men, your wives need more than food on the table, they need your love, affection, and attention. If husbands are only the providers then they've failed to be the leader God called them to be. Wives, your husbands need your respect. Encourage them in their pursuits but never let the material things of this life get in the way of your relationship!

DAY 2

READ MATTHEW 16:24-27

Don't trade what's unique to you for something someone else will do. Too often in our culture work becomes an idol. We can easily fall into worshipping our careers. Most of our time and attention is spent trying to climb the corporate ladder so that we can make more money or make a name for ourselves. Jesus ask's a great question that addresses this topic head on. What do you really gain by getting a bunch of stuff and in that very pursuit forfeit or give up your soul. He flips around our paradigm and shows us that real life is found not in the pursuit for bigger and better, but in following Jesus' example of putting others first. If you have a family they are always your first priority. Don't sacrifice them for a job someone else can, and will, end up doing!

DAY 3

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:32-35

Don't misread what Paul is writing here. He's not anti-marriage or relationships. He just wants us to understand that when you say "I do," your priorities shift from me to we. The reality is as a single person you set your own schedule. When you begin a family your time is not your own. You are given a unique responsibility. If you aren't ready to share your time and put someone else's interests first, it's probably best not to start a family. If you're single, make the most of this time, but don't neglect investing in significant relationships and opportunities.

DAY READ MATTHEW 5:37

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Do what you say you're going to do when you say you're going to do it. If you want to be trusted, you have to be trustworthy first. You have to make your "yes" be "yes". When you initiate integrity, you will be rewarded with trust. It's easier for others to follow your lead when others know you're aware of your promises and you will fight to fulfill them. If you make it your goal to do what you say, when you say you're going to do it, and you apologize when you fall short, you will build a foundation of trust that will change your life and your relationships.

DAY READ 1 TIMOTHY 4:13

5

God's Word is "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12). God wants to speak to us, and our families. Reading and knowing the Bible means knowing Him, and knowing Him means becoming more like Him. If we're becoming more like Jesus, our family will follow our leadership. If you want your family to grow closer to one another, begin to get to know God and spend time in His Word together. If you aren't yet in the habit of spending time alone with God, build that foundation first and then invite your family to join in!

AppNotes are available on our Facebook page, Monday-Friday.

facebook.com/parkerhill.org