

# **Sermon Series: “The Family: How It Works”**

## **#2 Making Family Your Priority**

*Introduction: The word “priority” is defined by Webster as, “something given or meriting attention before competing alternatives.” The family is the very first and the very best place to begin making disciples for Jesus Christ. Consequently, it should receive priority over any other worldly pursuits.*

### **I. \_\_\_\_\_ to Your Children How \_\_\_\_\_**

#### **They Are**

Dueteronomy 28:1-4; Psalm 127:3 Children are a “reward,” a “gift,” and a “blessing.”

Genesis 12:1-3 (Genesis 14:8-16; 22:1-19)

Genesis 27:36 (25:27-34)

Gary Smalley and John Trent write in *The Blessing*:

1. Give meaningful touch
2. Speak words of blessing (James 3:7-12)
3. Express High Value (Proverbs 25:11)
4. Visualize a Special Future
5. Make an Active Commitment (Love is spelled “T-I-M-E”)

### **II. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Spouse as Your \_\_\_\_\_ Friend**

Genesis 2:22&23; Proverbs 5:18&19; Ephesians 5:28

Proverbs 18:22

(Six week “Fireproof Your Marriage” small groups starting soon; “Focus on the Family Marriage Simulcast 2/28/09, “Seeing Your Marriage Through God’s Eyes”; see your bulletin for more information on both)

### **III. \_\_\_\_\_ God as Your #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Priority**

Matthew 13:44-46; 22:34-40: 6:33; Psalm 23:1; 1:1

Proverbs 3:5&6; Psalm 127:1

I Chronicles 28:9&10; I Cor. 6:19&20; Acts 2:38&39; 5:32

**Conclusion:** Were you able to read through your Bible in 2008? Will you accept the challenge to do so in 2009?