

How to Annoy Your Family!

4/11/12

Some of you, when you look at the title of this weeks lesson, think I've got that down. I annoy my family all the time. What we're going to talk about is making some changes in you life that will blow your parents and family away. It would annoy them because they'd be looking at you like, "Have you lost your mind? Something's different about you."

For the last two WIRED discipleships of the year we're going to talk about our families. Families (whether 1-parent or 2-parent homes) can be one of the most important parts of our lives, and also the hardest thing to live with. Families were our Creator's idea (check our His 5th commandment in Exodus 20:12). God commands (and is cheering us on) to takes steps to love, honor, and respect our family members, even when it's tough. He lets us know that only WE can control our OWN attitudes.

Thursday

What is the hardest thing about living with your parents right now?

What is the hardest thing for your parents, having to live with you right now?

Where did families come from?

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Where did families come from?

Friday

God CREATED Families!

Read about the Bible's first family, look up Genesis 4: 1-8, what happens to this family?

The Bible's first family was dysfunctional, so that should make you feel better about your family!

Think of 5 words that best describe your family. Ask your family for help!

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Do these five words make you glad to be a part of your family, or do you wish you had other words to write down? If you answered yes, write down some words you wish described your family.

What words would you use in describing a picture of God's desire for family?

Why do you think God desires for families to be like the picture you described in the blank above?

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Saturday

God created our families as a model for our spiritual family. What does that mean to you?

Explore the verse below and answer the questions that follow.

How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in Him. Long before He laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of His love, to be made whole and holy by His love. Long, long ago He decided to adopt us into His family through Jesus Christ."
-Ephesians 1:3-5

Write down a word describing how it makes you feel that God has wanted to adopt you since the beginning of time?

Explain why you chose this word.

Write down a word describing how it makes you feel that the HUGE adoption price paid for you was Jesus' death?

Explain why you chose this word.

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Sunday

God has given GUIDELINES for families

What do you think of when you hear the word guidelines?

Why do you think God gives us rules, or guidelines for our lives?

Skydiving! I've never been, but it sounds like it would be fun. When skydiving, you are given instructions. You've got your backpack strapped on. The dude says when you're out there, "Pull the cord." You don't rebel at the point in life. If a guideline leads to life, you follow the guideline.

Do you think God's guidelines lead to life? Why or why not?

Read Psalm 119: 44,45, what does this say about following God's guidelines? What does it lead to?

So what kind of guidelines has He set for us to follow concerning families? Read Ephesians 6: 1-3, and Exodus 20:12.

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Monday

Now rewrite the promise given in Ephesians 6:1-3 in everyday language. "If I take steps everyday to honor, respect, and love my parents, then God's promises me that..."

Realize that you can't CONTROL your family
Give some examples of ways you try to control your mom and dad.

No matter how hard you try, you can't control your parents. You can, however control yourself.

Most of you are thinking, yeah, but it is really hard to love, honor, and respect my parents. Write down some things your parents do to make this hard.

Now write down some things you do to make this hard.

Do you think loving, respecting, and honoring your EARTHLY parents is practice for your relationship with your HEAVENLY Father? Why or why not?

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Tuesday

How do you want your future kids to love and respect you? Finish this sentence, "When I have kids, I hope they treat me like..."

This weeks MISSION: Ask your parents or guardian two questions.

1. What's the hardest thing about being a parent?

2. What's one thing I could do to show you respect?

This is a story about a young man, he was 16 years old when he did this. He went home; he started taking his relationship with Christ serious. He ask his dad, "What is one thing I could do to show you respect?" His dad said, "Take out that sissy earring." He stood there in front of his dad, he took it out and walked away. That was the step that began to change the entire family.

READ AND MEMORIZE EPHESIANS 6: 1

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