

## WORSHIP

### SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

The Lord Reigns, To God be the Glory, He Knows My Name

## WELCOME

**Family Relationship.** Briefly describe your relationship with parents and siblings; spouse and children.

## WORD

### DEUTERONOMY 6:4–9

<sup>4</sup> “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! <sup>5</sup> You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. <sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

### ENGAGE THE FAMILY

It is God’s design for our family to be godly. But for a family to become godly, one must first learn to engage it.

Today’s family currently faces many challenges here and there. If we are not careful, too much time spent on TV and other digital devices can actually cause more problems and start to affect our behavior. This may include being open to adapt behaviors that lead to the erosion of values, addiction to games and drugs, pornography, pre-marital sex, teen pregnancy, depression, suicide, etc. These are causing families to fall apart and end up broken. How then do we influence the family to be godly amidst these challenges?

### INFLUENCE THE FAMILY

It is in God’s heart to bless our families. He gives us His Word so that by obeying it we will live well (**Deuteronomy 6:1–3**). As followers of Jesus Christ, we should model Christlikeness. Modeling does not mean perfection, it means authenticity.

If you are a parent, you have to impact the heart of your children by loving God with all your heart, soul and might (**v.4–6**). Your children should see your love for God. The more that they see your love for God, the more they will follow your example.

They should also see you reading the Bible, worshipping God, talking about Him to others, and living out what you teach. It should start with you so that you can model it to them. By modeling, you influence them to fall in love with God too.

The closer your children are to you, the less they will be influenced by the world. Influencing them by force, intimidation or bribery may work when your children are young but it will not have lasting results. Instead, strive to influence them through love.

### BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

We can learn from the story of King David about building relationship with the family (**2 Samuel 14:21–33**).

King David messed up being a parent to his son Absalom. He failed to build a relationship with him, nor spoke to him to correct his mistakes. Absalom tried to talk to his father but David refused to see him. So to get his father’s attention, Absalom burned a neighbor’s property.

Children have a natural longing for their parents’ time and affection, and when they don’t get it, they have a tendency to be involved in foolishness such as drugs, pornography, premarital sex, etc. so that their parents would notice them.

When children have relationship problems with their parents, they would either fight or flee. Absalom sowed bitterness against David, criticized him, and led a rebellion against him that caused horrible damage to the people of Israel (**2 Samuel 15:3, 6**).

**Affirm (Ephesians 4:28; Proverbs 18:21)** – We must be careful with our words because they impact people either negatively or positively. We should encourage, not tear down. Make our families smile with our affirmation. If our children do not feel

## WORD (cont'd)

affirmed at home, they will try to find it somewhere else. Affirming our children and developing their 'God-confidence' instead of self-confidence enables them to do things they may otherwise be afraid to do (**Philippians 4:13**).

**Communicate (James 1:19-20)** – The first duty of love is not to react or to lecture but to listen. Listen more and speak less. The more we listen to our family, the more we know them; and the more we know them, the more they feel loved. The more they feel loved, the more we can influence them. Communication involves verbal and non-verbal language. So, when we listen, we must look at them in the eyes and observe their body language carefully.

There is no such thing as a generation gap, only a communication gap. There are three questions you

can ask to practice good communication: How have I hurt you? How can I improve? Will you forgive me?

**Time (Mark 3:14)** – “Love” is spelled as T-I-M-E. If you love your family, spend time with them. It is when you spend time with them that ‘magic moments’ happen. These are moments when they like to listen or ask questions that are so important to them. They spontaneously open up to you and invite you into their inner life. Magic moments happen without planning, so seize every opportunity to engage with your family.

The principle in building relationships is: The closer the relationship, the greater the influence. The power of influence is directly proportional to the closeness of the relationship. Do your best to win the hearts of your children. Build a relationship with them.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

*(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)*

- 1. Family Engagement.** According to **Deuteronomy 6:4-6**, how do you engage the family to love and obey God?
- 2. Influence Quotient.** In a scale of 1 to 10 (highest), how do you rate your influence to your family? Briefly explain.
- 3. ACT now.** In building relationships in your family, which among Affirm, Communicate and Time do you feel the need to improve on? What specific steps are you going to take to improve relationships in your family?

## WORKS

### CALL TO A.C.T.

Apply A.C.T to your family with related verses and corresponding intentional steps of actions.

#### **AFFIRM**

*Sample verse: **Ephesians 4:28; Proverbs 18:21***

*Sample action: Compliment the good character of my child and spouse*

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#### **COMMUNICATE**

*Sample verse: **James 1:19-20***

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#### **TIME**

*Sample verse: **Mark 3:14***

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### WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

#### **I. Thanksgiving**

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

#### **II. Country and the World**

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

#### **III. Church**

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

#### **IV. CCF Facilities**

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

#### **V. Personal Concerns**

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends