

The Christian Family At The 21st Century

Unit 3 “Drafting A Mission Statement”

Opening Prayer: “We Are One In Mission”

We are one in mission, we are one in Call; Our varied gifts united, by Christ, the Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above; to plan and work together that all may know Christ’s love.

We are called to service, to witness in God’s name. Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same; to touch the lives of others with God’s surprising grace; so every folk and nations may feel God’s warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard; now let us be a vessel, for God’s redeeming Word. We all are on one mission, we all are one in call; our varied gifts united, by Christ, the Lord of all.

Unit Goal: To enable families to draft a Christian “Mission Statement”.

Key Scripture: “As for me and my house . . . we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

Unit Lessons:

1. The Mission of Christ’s Life, A Model

- John 3:16, 17
- Luke 2: 41, 42
- Matthew 24 Garden of Gethsemane (Jesus knew His mission)
- Matthew 28: 18, 19
- Luke 19:10

Discuss: In what ways did Christ carry out His mission on earth?

2. Biblical Models of Other’s Missions

- Genesis 12 (Abraham)
- Exodus 3 (Moses)
- I Samuel 28 (Samuel)
- Luke 1:5 -25 (John the Baptist)

Discuss: How did other biblical models carry out their missions to achieve God's purposes?

3. God's Purposes for Families

- I John 4:19 (Love)
- Ephesians 4:32 (Forgiveness)
- Ruth 1:16, 17 (Commitment)
- II Timothy 1:3-7 (Share the Promise)

Discuss: What is God's purpose for our family?

4. Begin With the End In Mind - Heaven.

- Philippians 3:14
- Job 19:25
- Philippians 3:20,21
- Revelation 2:10b

Discuss: When would be a good time to share the comfort of heaven with others?

5. Drafting A Mission Statement.

- Discuss: What is our family's purpose, what kind of relationships do we want, what are our priorities, how is a Christian family unique (cf. "The 7 Habits Of Highly Effective Families; Stephen Covey)
- What makes a "Christian" mission statement different?
- How will we use our mission statement?

Discuss: What are some ways drafting a mission statement could benefit your family?

Unit Activities:

- Look for hymns which reflect our mission.
- Bring examples of mission statements of other families, individuals; how are they applied?
- Develop a family theme or logo (maybe yearly).

- Apply family mission statement to activities (e.g. TV, movies, etc.)
- Planned structured family outings.
- Prepare a family genealogy, family tree.

Unit Commitment: Each participant is invited to write a personal goal, which blessed by God, will further individual and family growth.

Unit Song: "Forth In Your Name, O Lord, I Go"

Forth in your name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue,
Determined only you to know in all I think or speak or do.

Oh, let me cheerfully fulfill, the task your wisdom has assigned;
And do your good and perfect will - in all my works your presence find!

Give me to bear your easy yoke and every moment watch and pray;
And still to things eternal look and hasten to your glorious day.

For you I joyously employ whatever you in grace have given,
I run my daily course with joy, and closely walk with you to heaven.

Closing Prayer

I'm but a stranger here; Heaven is my home. Earth is a desert drear; Heaven is my home. Danger and sorrow stand, round me on every hand; Heaven is my fatherland, Heaven is my home.

