

God's Grand Vision for Your Home

Michael Scarbrough, Director of U.S. Programs, Awana®
Resolute Parenting Conference • March 6, 2010

How do we define success in parenting? (We all want it, but what is "it"?)

- A _____
- A _____
- S _____
- S _____

How do we demonstrate our success scale?

- In our c _____ ?
- In our c _____ ?
- In our c _____ ?
- In our c _____ ?

What is the vision (purpose) for your home?

- Write your family vision statement: _____

- The Bible answers this question clearly!

Start here: what is the purpose of life itself?

- Matthew 22:35-38: Jesus identifies what the greatest commandment is
 - L_____ the Lord your God with all your _____, _____, _____
 - Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 6:4-5
 - We were made for a _____ with God!
 - Blaise Pascal: we all have a _____ - _____ .

Where is a love for God to be cultivated?

- God wants His _____ for us to be on our _____ (Deut. 6:6)
 - He doesn't just want _____ – any more than we do!
- We _____ the things we _____. When God has our _____, He has everything!
- Struggles in our walk with God are ultimately _____ problems.

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Where are heart relationships formed most significantly?

- At _____ -- no matter how you look at it
 - Fun ways
 - Dad (or Mom!) passing _____ for a _____ to kids
 - Mom or Dad passing enthusiasm for a _____
 - Serious ways
 - What family experience did you have as a child that impacted your heart in a positive way? How did that experience build character in your life?
 - Yet where do (or can) the deepest hurts of our lives come from?
- Is your home an emotionally safe environment for your kids' hearts?
 - If not, think of one thing you would like to work on to make it so.

What is God's grand vision for our homes?

- To impress a _____ on the _____ of our _____!
- If relational matters of the heart are shaped most powerfully at home, why would we expect that _____ would be any different?
- If our children inherited a _____ from us – wouldn't we do everything in our power to help them be cured? They have! We must!
- "These five words, *impress them on your children*, teach that God's primary plan of _____ and _____ is from parent to child"
 - Do you agree with this statement?
 - Statistically speaking, the most effective evangelist your child will ever encounter is _____. No one has a _____ to lead him/her to Jesus!

How do we accomplish God's grand vision? (aka "how to really impress your kids")

- If we are to impress the hearts of our kids with a love for Him, God says that our families (yes, ours -- not the other person's!) are to be _____
- What kind of "center" is your family?
 - S_____ center
 - A_____ center
 - W_____ center
 - S_____ center
 - D_____ center
- Address two potential responses of the flesh:
 - "S_____ M_____"
 - "D_____ P_____"

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Where do we begin to accomplish God's grand vision for our homes?

- Read Deuteronomy 6:7-9. He told us!
- What are the mysterious, heart-impressing activities?!!
 - Your W _____
 - Your A _____/E _____
 - Your I _____
- Why is being a good role model and sending your kids to other people for spiritual instruction not enough to be obedient to God's command?
- God knows how _____ we need things to be!
- Deuteronomy 6:7 highlights four key _____ that parents can interact spiritually with their kids.
 - *when you* _____. Is there a consistent time during the day (if not the day, the week) when your family is sitting at home together? If not, what do you need to do to your schedule to position yourself to "impress"?
 - *when you* _____. What are our present day "in-between" times? We have many! How might we use these times as an opportunity to share spiritual truth with our kids?
 - *when you* _____. Children have a unique openness of heart at bedtime; don't lose these crucial opportunities to omission or routine.
 - *when you* _____. The familiar phrase "first things first" is a challenge to all of us.

Conclusion

Welcome the opportunity to utilize these God-filled moments in your home. Evaluate the four God-given, power-packed times of day as a starting point for your "discipleship center strategy" – then ask Him for the ability to be faithful to His call on your home!

Specific discipleship center activity to put it into practice:

- This week:

- Next week:

- Next month:

Seek community and accountability – don't embark alone on the journey of transforming your family into a discipleship center!

- This church
- Your church
- Awana at Home® (Web: awana.org/athome or Twitter: @awanaathome)