



THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of
Ashley River Baptist Church

10 HABITS OF A HEALTHY HOME

Joshua 24:15 "...as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord!

#10 CHILDREN ARE DISCIPLINED WITH LOVE AND CONSISTENCY.....

Limits are clearly set forth

Consequences for violating limits are explained

Discipline is applied for trespass beyond the limits.

Hebrews 12:5-6 5 "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, 6 because the Lord disciplines those he loves,

Proverbs 22:15 "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child but the rod of correction drives it far from him."

#9 MONEY IS MANAGED WISELY AND DISCUSSED OPENLY...

It's not "his" money. It's not "her" money. It's "our" money....."one flesh"

Actually...it's all God's money.

Consider the 10/10/80 principle

Give God the first 10% - tithe. Save the next 10%. Live on 80%

These families teach their children the importance of giving to God and trusting Him with the tithe!

#8 EVERYONE SHARES HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Each person has responsibility as a family member and learns life skills in the process.

Mom is not the maid...Prov.31 woman worked outside the home in real estate!

Father sets the example in all areas....not just "male" tasks

2 Kings 21:13 "I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down." (KJV)

#7 THE FAMILY HAS LEARNED TO COPE WITH ADVERSITY.

Death, disasters, disappointments

It's "HOW" a family deals with the problem that makes them stronger!

"COPE" means to face one's adversity and depend on God's grace and power... not ignore the problems or pretend they don't exist.

#6 FAMILY MEMBERS LAUGH TOGETHER

Laughter helps overlook other's faults and lightens tense situations.

Prov. 17:22 "A cheerful heart is good medicine."

.....i.e. - laughter makes you feel better!

#5 EACH PERSON IS TREATED WITH RESPECT AND KINDNESS

Treat each other not as "good" but "better" than we treat other people!

Sarcasm and "put-downs" are not allowed and it begins with the parents attitude toward one another. Allow no disrespect to be expressed

COURTESY - a code of conduct expected of those who lived in the King's court - "courtesans" - that included kindness, helpfulness and respect.

EPH 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

#4 TIME FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES IS A PRIORITY

Spending QUALITY time and a large QUANTITY of time doing thing together as family. Grown children reminisce about the memories...not the money and material!

Memories are priceless and timeless!

#3 THE FAMILY EATS AND TALKS TOGETHER REGULARLY

Strong families eat dinner together regularly.

They listen to each other and discuss the day's events and their feelings about them.

Uninterrupted...no TV, no radio, no telephone...no noise!

This is a priority...even if it means being late to baseball practice....

#2 LOVE IS EXPRESSED EVERY DAY

Love and affection is expressed with each family member each day with words and deeds.

Hugging, kissing, snuggling and saying "I love you"

It begins with the husband and wife who aren't ashamed to show the children they love each other... A great source of security for the kids.

#1 JESUS CHRIST IS THE GLUE OF THE FAMILY

Jesus is Lord of the home. Jesus is the center - not an individual.

Families pray together, have devotions and attend worship together.

Attending church is not optional.

Faith is lived and practiced together every day...not just on Sunday at church!

The only thing that can add more value to your family is when Jesus is the Lord of your home.

When Christ is the Lord of your life and your home, the few years you enjoy together as a family on earth will be full and enriching... but only a prelude to the glorious life that you will enjoy together in eternity!

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" Joshua 24:15