

FAMILY MATTERS- Podcast - Season 4 Episode 1

Reality of the nuclear family today: (from Lifeway research)

2019 - 36% of 18-34 year olds attend 2 times a month.. fallen to 26%

More than 1 in 4 families are missing/not attending a church since pre COVID

Among American parents of children in under age 14, only 13% have a biblical worldview, among self-identified Christians it is only 2 %

Faith doesn't intersect with life, (we have compartmentalized our faith, work, activities)

Grandparents raising grandkids, those raising adopted children have all gone up, fostering, single parent homes, the nuclear family has changed from the "Leave it to Beaver" days

WHY is FAMILY a focus and value at WakyMC?

- 1. Premise: Family was God's idea that He created, designed and blessed. The family for the purpose of multiplication and discipleship is storied throughout the Bible, and seen and modeled in both the church and the home.**

☐ **GOD's IDEA: He CREATED FAMILY, Gave purpose, mission, and blessing**

Then God said, "Let us make human beings so that they are like us. Let them rule over the fish in the seas and the birds in the sky. Let them rule over the livestock and all the wild animals. And let them rule over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created human beings in his own likeness.

He created them to be like himself.

He created them as male and female. God blessed them. He said to them, "Have children so that there will be many of you. Fill the earth and bring it under your control. Rule over the fish in the seas and the birds in the sky. Rule over every living creature that moves along the ground." Then God said, "I am giving you every plant on the face of the whole earth that produces its own seeds. I am giving you every tree that has fruit with seeds in it. All of them will be given to you for food. 30 I am giving every green plant as food for all the land animals and for all the birds in the sky. I am also giving the plants to all the creatures that move along the ground. I am giving them to every living thing that breathes." And that's exactly what happened.

☐ **Love the Lord Your God, Pass the Faith is a commandment to FAMILIES**

The Lord is our God. The Lord is the one and only God. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength. 6 The commandments I give you today must be in your hearts. 7 Make sure your children learn them. Talk about them when you are at home. Talk about them when you walk along the road. Speak about them when you go to bed. And speak about them when you get up. 8 Write them down and tie them on your hands as a reminder. Also tie them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses. Also write them on your gates.

- ☐ **The Church is a model for FAMILY: The local church is an extension of the home as well as a larger spiritual family for God's children of every age and situation in life. No one is left out.**

Church is a living relationship with flesh and spirit, not an inanimate organization with walls and programs. It is just like that in a family. We are relatives with one another in a nuclear family and in church we are a spiritual family, and in both cases when we place our trust in Christ together our commitment and community grows deeper. We need each other to grow together in our discipleship...REAL LIFE.....TOGETHER

FACT: Why do we encourage Family Worship, Intergenerational Serve moments?

Fuller Youth Institute: Teenagers who are involved in intergenerational relationships in church are more likely to remain faithful to the church following graduation. Teens should NOT only be the objects of ministry; they NEED to be the subjects of ministry as well. It's the 16 year old who has a relationship with a 66 year old and a 6 year old who is more likely to stay involved in a faith community after graduation.

- ☐ **The home extends the ministry of the church into the community...the way the church moves outside the walls.**
 - A station of relationship evangelism
 - A base for transformational discipleship
 - A source for intergenerational relationships
 - A satellite for ministry outreach

The family moves and lives outside the walls of the church. That is why when we develop disciples inside our homes our church is not the only place that benefits, our community and our everyday world is the primary place for true biblical discipleship and transformation to take place.

2. What does it look like at WakyMC? Walking WITH you, ALONGSIDE you as an individual and family

- ☐ **Worship, Family Activities, Family Focus (The Dinner Table Matters)**
- ☐ **@HOME - Website, Facebook, The Podcast will feature discussions on real life issues we are all facing and how we as families are navigating it....THIS will not be a "SHOULD DO" podcast, it will be a "COULD YOU, CAN YOU, Hey we tried!" Life discussions about hot topics that we are all facing each one of us bring a topic this fall to the table.**
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 - **Give us feedback, give us questions, content you would like us to cover.**

And that is what we are about....Life Transformation.....through REAL LIFE TOGETHER

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