FAMILY TIME—THE MISSING INGREDIENT

OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

I. “Daddy, would you play with me a little bit?”

II. The need

A. A common failure — In the hurry of modern life, family time is lost.

B. A recognized Need — Families are breaking apart. Values are breaking down.

C. A Sought Answer — Families are seeking the answer for that missing ingredient and how we can bring it back into our homes, because it was God’s desire.

III. Great Enemies

A. Monkey Collecting.

B. Misplaced priorities.

C. Neglect.

D. Fatigue.

E. TV.

F. Satan.

IV. The working principles of family time

V. Some specific suggestions

A. Beginning a Family Time notebook of ideas notebook.

B. Establishing “Family Council”.

C. Maintain daily family devotions.

D. Set aside a “family night”.

E. Get the family to bed for adequate rest.

F. Facing the TV problem.

G. Stressing “TOGETHERNESS”.

H. Have at least one meal all together daily (supper if possible).

I. Build happy family traditions (“Special” foods, games, activities, days, seasons, places, nights, expressions, etc.).

J. Organizing the house — a place for every¬thing and everything in its place.

K. Keep family time materials, supplies, etc. accessible for immediate use.

L. Entertaining others.

M. Vacations (Plan and Save all year).

N. Visits to relatives.

O. Hobbies

P. Shopping (Grocery, Dept, Window).

Q. Routine family work (Cooking, dishes, clothes, cleaning, car, farm work, etc.).

R. Sightseeing drives.

S. Revivals and special meetings.

T. Sitting together as a family at church.

U. Games at home (Ping-Pong, caroms, checkers, aggravation, scrabble, Bible games, etc.).

V. Walks.

W. Picnics.

X. Activities where one member is participating (sports, programs, etc.).

Y. Markets, special sales.

Z. Bicycling.

AA. Jogging.

BB. Bus ministry and other visitation.

CC. Puzzles.

DD. Music at home (singing, instruments, etc.).

EE. Reading good books.

FF. Family films or videos.

GG. Innovative healthy snacks.

HH. Making items to be given or sold later.

II. Sunday as a special day.

JJ. Home dedication.

KK. Big Birthday celebrations.

LL. Visiting shut-ins.

MM. Photo albums (family and for each child).

NN. Family memories cassette tapes.

OO. Zoo trips.

PP. Admitting when wrong and asking for prayer.

QQ. Loving hugs and squeezes.

RR. Complimentary words.

SS. Dates at home.

VI. Work at it — your family is worth it!”

VII. Do it now — the precious years are slipping through your fingers!!”

VIII. You will never regret the time spent with your family — but you may live to regret the time you didn’t!

IX. Your personal ‘family-time’ inventory:

A. Things your family does together:

B. Things your family does individually

CONCLUSION

Practical assignment