

faith
and the
modern
family

How to Raise a Healthy Family
in a “Modern Family” World

FAMILY, INC. WORKBOOK

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Overview & Table of Contents

An intelligent person aims at wise action, but a fool starts off in many directions.
Proverbs 17:24, GNB

Overview

Think of this workbook as a step-by-step guide to walk your family through the process of creating your Family, Inc.

The process is simple, but it will take some time to finish. Enjoy the process and set a reasonable pace to walk through each step. You don't need to rush the process, but don't let it drag either. The longer you wait between steps the more momentum you lose.

If you get stuck, hang in there! Do something creative or different, or sit quietly and wait for God to speak.

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How To Use This Workbook

There will be questions to answer, activities to complete and thoughts to record. You will brainstorm ideas and think creatively about the focus of your family. Here are couple of suggestions as you begin.

1. Be Prepared

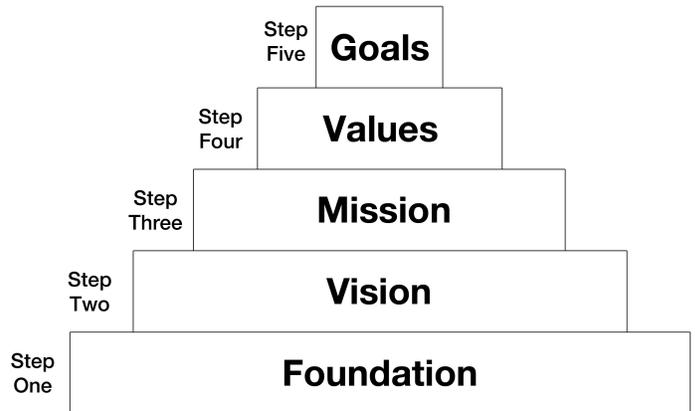
Keep pen and paper or the workbook with you until you have completed all five steps. Be prepared to capture a word, thought, phrase or idea at any time. You can write your thoughts and ideas on the following pages as you work through each step.

2. Invest The Time

Plan to spend 57 minutes on each step. It's probably more time than you need, but the extra time will bring you some balance.

3. Take The Steps

Take each step in order starting with your foundation and finishing with your goals. Each step builds upon the next. Keep in mind the five building blocks we discussed in chapter ten.



4. Follow The Plan

Each step you take is broken down into five practice points. A verse to remember, thoughts to consider, actions to take, what we accomplished and a page for you to try it out. Let me explain.



Verse To Remember

Verse To Remember is a verse that will give you a little context for what you are doing and why you are doing it.



Thoughts To Consider

Thoughts To Consider are directions and guidelines to help you move toward your goal of creating Family, Inc.



Actions To Take

Actions To Take are directions to help you accomplish the step you are taking.



What We Accomplished

What We Accomplished serves as an example of what the finished product of that step looks like. What We Accomplished is here so you can see what the final outcome looks like.



Try It Out

Try It Out is just what it says, a blank sheet for you and your family to “try out” your ideas for Family Inc. It’s a place to take notes on, draw on, write questions on and brainstorm.

Step 1: Deciding My Family's Foundation



Verse To Remember

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.”
1 Corinthians 3:11



Thoughts To Consider

Take a look at the following verses and inspirational quotes. Each one could serve as a foundation on which to build your family. Think about one of these being your family theme, your family verse or your family quote. It will be your family's foundation on which you will build your family's future.

Inspirational Verses

1. “Serve one another” (Galatians 5:13).
2. “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24).
3. “Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him” (Colossians 3:10).
4. “I am writing to remind you, dear friends, that we should love one another. This is not a new commandment, but one we have had from the beginning” (2 John 1:5).
5. “Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God” (Ephesians 5:1).
6. “Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory” (Romans 15:7).
7. “Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone” (2 Peter 1:5-7).
8. “Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:32).
9. “And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father” (Colossians 3:17).

Inspirational Quotes

1. "All greatness is achieved while performing outside your comfort zone." Greg Arnold
2. "Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows." Helen Keller
3. "The only people you should try and get even with are the ones who have helped you."
John E. Southard
4. "Our life is what our thoughts make it." Marcus Aurelius
5. "It is better to deserve honors and not have them than to have them and not deserve them."
Mark Twain
6. "It's not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves." Edmund Hillary
7. "The difference between the possible and the impossible lies in a man's determination."
Tommy Lasorda
8. "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." Aristotle
9. "Never stop growing. Plateaus should only be found in geography books, not in personal experiences."
John Maxwell



Actions To Take

Read through the verses and quotes a few times. Find one that catches your attention and resonates with your soul; one that you feel would best describe the type of foundation you want to build your family on. Once you select a verse or a quote you want as your foundation, then you are ready to move on to the next step.

I'm sure some families will go a little further when deciding their family's foundation. In fact, I hope you do! However, I don't want anyone to get stuck. I've provided some choices just to make the process enjoyable. Some families will use the verses or quotes provided as a springboard to explore other Bible verses or inspirational quote options. I say, explore, unleash and get creative!

Perhaps you don't need to start from scratch. Some families already have a foundation and may be doing a family renovation. They just need to build a vision and mission addition and maybe do a remodel on their values and goals.

Before moving on to the next step, make sure you have done the following three things:

1. You understand the importance of a firm foundation.
2. You have made a decision on your foundation.
3. You have written down your verse or quote that will serve as your foundation.

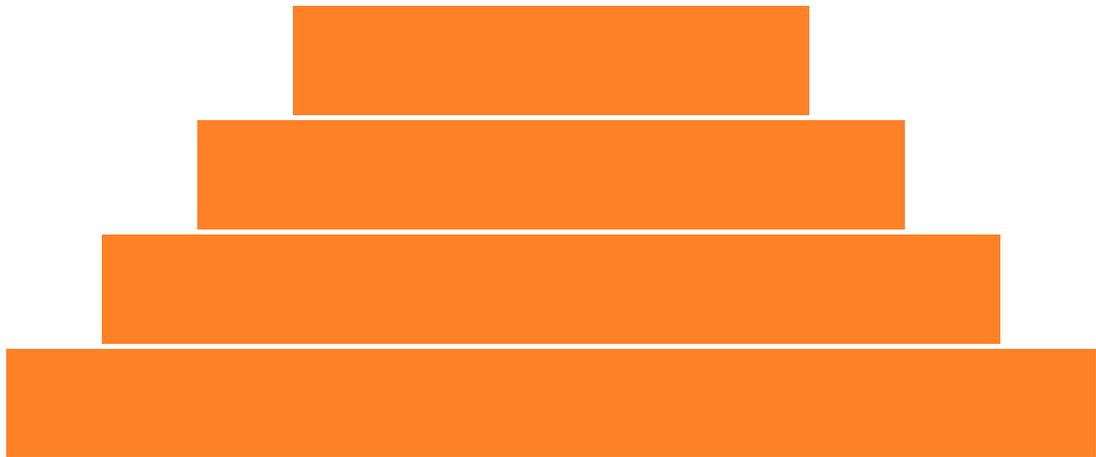


What We Accomplished

Foundation

So that you can see an example for each step in the design process, we are going to choose Colossians 3:17 as our sample family foundation:

Whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father (Colossians 3:17).



Step 1

Foundation

Whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17



Try It Out