

The Family That PLAYS Together

“So I recommend having fun, because there is nothing better for people in this world than to eat, drink, and enjoy life. That way they will experience some happiness along with all the hard work God gives them under the sun.”
Ecclesiastes 8:15 NLT

Have you ever heard the saying, “All work and no play makes Johnny a dull boy?” While the wording may sound elementary, the truth of that saying is not. Many families and relationships are without life (dull) or decaying because some couples and families are forgetting to make time to enjoy the blessings of life together. In my previous two articles, I emphasized that if we are going to reach, rescue and restore godly families, we must incorporate God’s word and prayer into our family structure and routines. However, not only should our families be engaged in these spiritual disciplines together, it is also important that families make time for another critical element of a strong family unit – FUN!

Imagine a household where there are no smiles, sounds of laughter or evidence of joy. Does this truly glorify God? A godly home or family that reflects the presence and power of God will exemplify the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, etc.). However, due to misplaced priorities and our “supposedly” busy and hectic schedules, many families don’t even spend quality time together enjoying the blessings of the family and, therefore, wind up reflecting dullness, misery and fear.

When is the last time your family spent time playing games together, on a trip or even eating dinner together? Is there joy and laughter within your home? Do your children (and spouse) get to see you smile each day? Husbands/wives have you allowed your children to take away your time together? Do your attitude and actions make it seem like being a child of God is a blessing or a burden?

Starting this week, make time for your family. Laugh daily with them. Find creative ways to play together. You would be amazed at what you can and will learn about the people you call family. Not only will you be blessed but your family will too and God will be glorified. Reevaluate and adjust your work schedule and other priorities that we often allow to take precedence over our families. I’ve never heard of a person on their deathbed saying, “I wish I had spent more time at work.”

Life is short. Enjoy the time that God gives you with your family.