



Family – An Ark in the Storm

“Make for yourself an ark of cypress wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch.... the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. ... I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall enter the ark – you and your sons and your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.” – Gen. 6:14-18

Family analogies with the ark in scripture:

Significant structure to survive the flood waters – 450’ long, 75’ wide and 45’ high!

Family is God’s structure that will stay strong through storms in the world;

Pitch on the outside – to protect the hull against the constant beating of the waves.

Discipline in Christian faith – Time in prayer, scripture, worship and study of God’s word will help keep worldly influences in check;

Pitch on the inside – reinforcement to ensure integrity of the hull.

Integrity of family – marriage and healthy relationships; grounded in faith – spiritual health in the home and participation in church; reinforcing discipline – mind and body;

With rooms – provision for the next generation.

Physical, emotional and spiritual provision to launch the next generation of Christians;

Discussion time:

Dad – discuss a family experience you had as a kid that helped shape your life

Family – share what family means to you

Dad – tell of a particular struggle you faced and how your family was or was not there for you

Family – share who you turn to in times of struggle

Dad – talk about integrity and faith in the home you grew up in and your parents’ disciplinary practices

Family – share your perspective on discipline in the home

Discuss how you can help each other grow spiritually in family and be a Christian influence in the world.

We commit to: _____

Prayer: Lord, thank You for the blessing that is family. Help me understand and step up to the physical, social and spiritual responsibilities as the husband and father You call me to be. I know that in Your strength I can build a family that will stand firm against the storms of life, a legacy to continue for generations. Forgive me my trespasses, and help me forgive those that trespass against me. Lead me not into temptation, but deliver me from evil, that my family may be an ark on top of the flood waters of worldly influence, by Your grace and for Your glory. Amen.