

Engage 2015 Conference – Christchurch – 14-15 August 2015

SESSION #8 - "As For Me & My House"

Establishing A Lifestyle Of Worship Within The Home

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*The moral degradation of our society is cultural in its scope. Entertainment, the arts and music, literature, manners, sports, work, leisure, and recreation have all been bent to serve a majority culture that is determined to remove every last vestige of Christian truth from public consciousness. Our children are being told how to think about authority, justice, honor, amusement, responsibility, service, and gender by a culture that has "lost all sensitivity and given itself to sensuality" (Eph. 4:19; see also 2 Tim 3:1-3). We are raising children in a dangerous culture that is impossible to quarantine. It seeps into our homes through cracks. If we are not self-consciously providing a culture (in our homes) rooted in truth, our children will be more influenced by the majority culture than they are by us and God's truth. (Excerpted from **Instructing a Child's Heart by Tedd and Margy Tripp**)*

The important distinction between a "lifestyle of worship" and "family worship"

- A lifestyle of worship within our homes, can only truly come from an attitude of worship within our hearts. (Matt 15:8-9, 1 John 4:19, 2 Corin 2:14-16. Prov 3:5-6)

The "why" behind a lifestyle of worship

BECAUSE HE IS GOD

BECAUSE GOD HAS COMMANDED US TO WORSHIP HIM

John 4:23-24, Deu 6:13, Mat 4:10, Phl 1:20-21, Gen 18:19, Act 10:2, Jos 24:15, Deu 6:4-7

- **The husband, is a picture of Christ, leading, initiating, and sacrificially loving his children, and His bride, as He points them continuously to His Father in heaven for the purpose of worshipping Him, and loving Him, and walking in obedience to His Word. Eph 6:4, 1Ti 3:4-5**

Some “why’s” of family worship

- It centres our family life upon Christ
- It helps to interpret the world through Scripture
- It demonstrates that God is worthy of our worship
- It teaches Christ-like character
- It encourages peace within the home
- It helps us to shepherd our children’s hearts
- It bonds the family together
- It makes God’s Word familiar to our children
- It trains children for corporate worship
- It reinforces the spiritual headship of the father
- It provides systematic discipleship
- It allows for generational testimony
- Etc. etc. etc.

If we don’t intentionally lead our children forward in the faith, there is a great risk that they will naturally fall backwards into the world.

“Let us be worshippers first, and workers second” – AW Tozer