

# ::EQUIPPING FAMILIES TO DO DISCIPLESHIP::

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## Foundational Assumptions about Family Ministry

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## Perspectives from Past Saints

::Polycarp of Smyrna::

::*Shepherd of Hermas*::

::John Chrysostom::

::Martin Luther::

::Richard Baxter::

::Jonathan Edwards::

## Perspectives from Present Research

**George Barna:** "No matter how hard a church tries, it is incapable of bringing a child to complete spiritual maturity. ... Teenagers rarely embrace Christianity if their family has treated faith as a Sunday morning experience ... the family ... must have worship experiences, pray together about significant personal needs, study the meaning of Scriptures together, and serve others."

**Christian Smith:** "Teenagers seldom vary very far from the religious beliefs of their parents. Only 11% say their religious beliefs are very different from their father's and only 6% say their beliefs are very different from their mother's."

# Be Together

The Problem of Fragmented Families and Disengaged Fathers

**Barbara Hirsch:** "A clear picture of adolescents...eludes us...because we aren't there. Not just parents, but any adults. ... If nobody is there to talk to, it is difficult to get the lessons of your own life so that you are adequately prepared to do the next thing."

Statistical Data	Spiritual Considerations

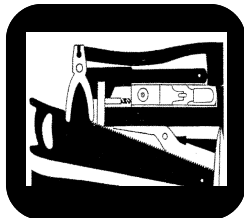
## Serve and Play Together

Lasting Growth or Fleeting Efficiency?

Celebrating Amusement or Celebrating One Another?

## Learn Together

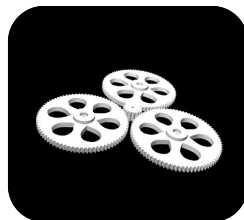
**Equip**



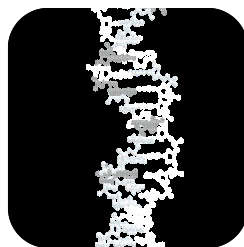
*Missional*

*Multigenerational*

*Memorable*



**Synchronize**



**Be**



**Acknowledge**