

Your Family Story notes

Week 1

What Character Are You?

April 18 & 19, 2009
Pastor Steve Davidson

“YOUR FAMILY STORY” SERMON SERIES OVERVIEW

Every family has a story. Every story has Characters, Tension, New Chapters and an Ending.

The goal for this series is to help every family examine their family story and take aim at a realistically happy ending.

- **What Character Are You: Hero, Victim or Villain?**
- What Is Your Family Tension?
- How Can You Start a New Chapter?
- How Can Your Story Reach a Happy Ending?

MAIN PROBLEM IN EVERY FAMILY IS
Self-Centeredness

Today's Text – Ephesians 5:21 (NIV)

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

HOW TO BE A HERO IN REAL LIFE

1. Recognize the Two Kinds Of Self-Centeredness

- Thinking *Too Much* of Yourself
- Thinking *Too Little* of Yourself

Both Keep You From Being Able To Serve Other People.

The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.”

Genesis 4:6-7 (NIV)

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2. Build My Life & Family on Power of the Gospel

*...God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8 (ESV)*

The Gospel in a Nutshell:

- You are more *Self-Centeredness, Evil & Weak* than you ever dared believe,
- But you are more *Valued, Accepted & Loved* than you ever dared hope.

3. Take My Mind Off Self & Trust Christ to *Meet My Needs*

*I can do everything through Him who gives me strength... my God will **meet all your needs** according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:13-19 (NIV)

4. Admit My Faults & Focus on *Others' Needs*

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12 (NIV)

RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS:

1. Family Night Challenge

- Intentionally carve out a minimum of 1 hour of family time each week for the next four weeks.
- Turn off all distractions (cell phones, TV, etc.).
- Allow time for affirmation, fun, discussion, scripture devotion and prayer for the family.
- If you want a resource, we have one FREE online at clovishills.com [click on the “Your Family Story” link]. Or pick up a copy in the New Day Bookstore for \$2.00.
** Remember, Parents are the most influential person in their children's lives. **

2. “Mastering the Mysteries of Love” (Marriage) – a Discipleship Institute Class on Wednesday evenings

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