

Strengthening the Home and Stability of the Family



The Comforters

Leadership UMC

May 2011



THE COMFORTERS

Group Number 2

Group program: March 2011

C - Covenant of Committed Christians ...

Group Members

O - Operating Objectively On ...

Allen Cudd

M - Ministering, Motivating & Moving Many.

Sharon Davis

F - Focused, Following, Fervent Favor ...

O - On an Orthodox, Order Of Outcomes.

Pamela Dean

R - Representing Righteous Revelations ...

JoAnna Henry

T - Testifying Temperance, Teaching Together

E - Enlighten, Educating & Encouraging ...

Michael Johnson

R - Restoring Reverence Reality & Revival...

Joyce W. Moore

S - Sacrifice, Sentiment & Service.

Dawn Townsend

WE ARE THE COMFORTERS

Objectives

What is Family?

What are current statistics on family?

What is the Biblical Basis for Strong families?

What is the Methodist doctrine on family?

What factors make a strong family?

What is the church's responsibility?

What family ministries exist?

Conclusion

What is Family?



Family

- A group of people living under one roof and usually one head
- A group of persons of common ancestry
- A group of people united by certain convictions or common affiliation
- The basic unit of society



Merriam Webster Dictionary

The FACTS

- **American children:**
- 1 in 2 will live in a single parent family at some point in childhood
- 1 in 3 is born to unmarried parents
- 1 in 4 lives with only one parent
- 1 in 8 is born to a teenage mother
- 1 in 6 girls will have a baby before completing 12 grade.
- 1 in 25 children lives with neither parent
- (The state of America's Children, 1998 yearbook)

- **Family**
- 66.7 % of American Youth are living in non-traditional families (7 out of 10)
- 23.3% are living with biological mother (Stepfamily Association)
- 4.4% are living with biological father (Stepfamily Association)
- 3.7% are living with non-relatives
- 1% are living in foster families
- 6.3% are living with grandparents
- 30% are living in stepfamilies



never mind your opinion,
what are the facts?

Families Today are Very Diverse!



Adopted



Blended

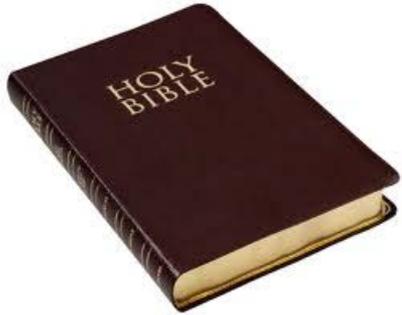


Single



Extended

Biblical Basis for Strong Families



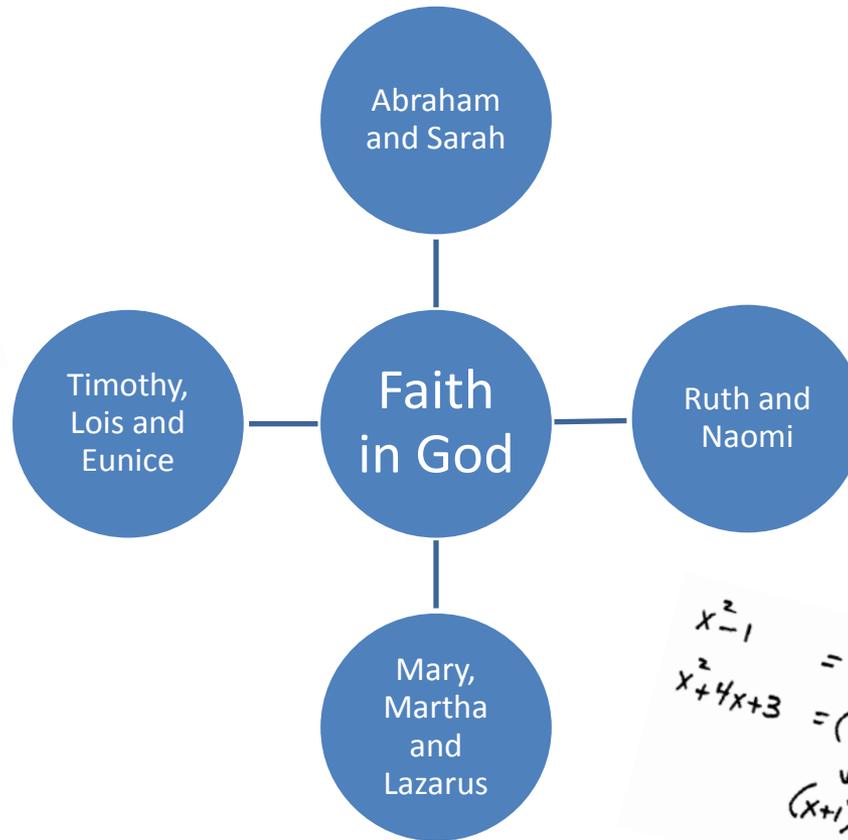
God intended for family
to be
the basic unit of society

27 So God Created man in His own image, in the image of God He created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number ; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Genesis 1:27-28

The Common Denominator

$$\frac{1000}{6500} = \frac{65X}{6500}$$
$$1000 = 65X$$
$$\frac{1000}{65} = X$$
$$15.38 = X$$



$$x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1)$$
$$x^2 + 4x + 3 = (x+1)(x+3)$$
$$(x+1)(x-1)(x+3)$$

$$x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1)$$
$$x^2 + 4x + 3 = (x+1)(x+3)$$
$$(x-1)(x+1)(x+3)$$

Faith in God

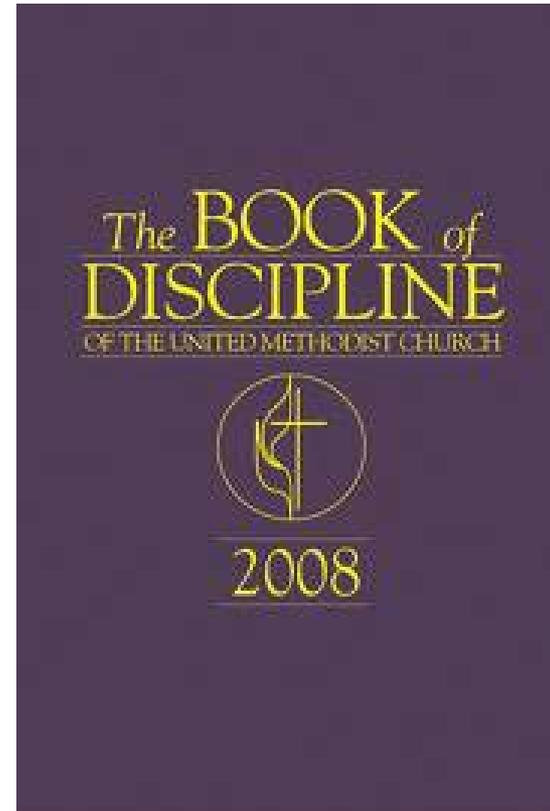
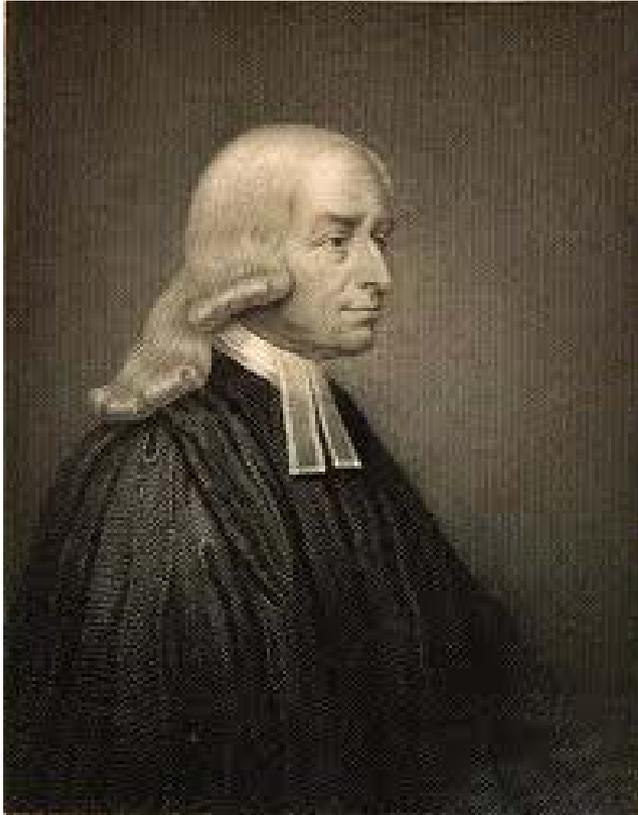


Psalm 78



My people hear my teaching
Listen to the words of my mouth
I will open my mouth with a parable
I will utter things, things from of old-
Things we have heard and known,
Things our ancestors have told us.
We will not hide them from our descendants;
We will tell the next generation
The praiseworthy duties of the LORD
His powers, and the wonders He has done.

Denominational Doctrine



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

What Makes Family Strong?





Survey Findings

- “As the daughter of a preacher, it was very difficult to move as often as my family did. The shortest I ever lived somewhere was two years; the longest five. The church always stepped forward to try to make it easier for us as the “preacher’s family’. People would greet us at home with food; parties would help to introduce us to neighbors and children; advice on the ‘best’ including groceries, schools, hairdressers, schools readily offered. If the church did this for all families – including families who have been members of the church for years, I believe it would be invaluable. Life at home for me was stable despite the moves. It was loving and forgiving. It was those characteristics that helped keep our family strong in the midst of change and moves. The church home – should also be loving and forgiving.”
- “We should offer a safe forgiving atmosphere where families at risk can work out their problems.”
- “The church can help stabilize the family through its teachings, preaching and practices.”

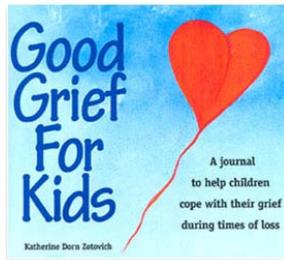
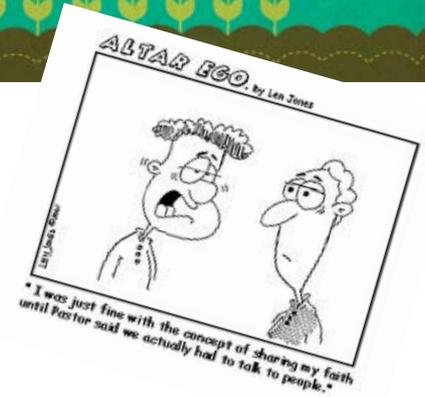
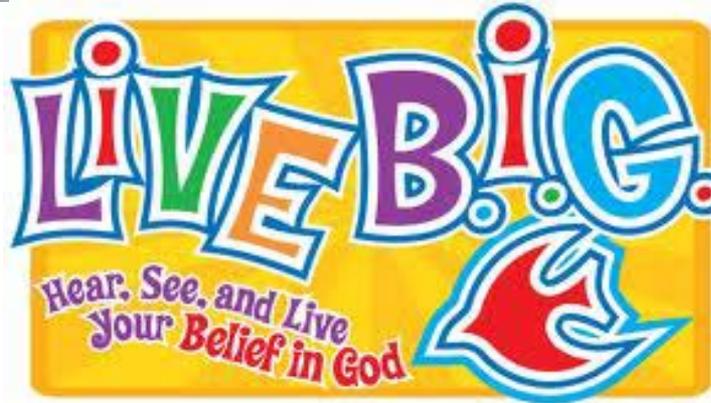
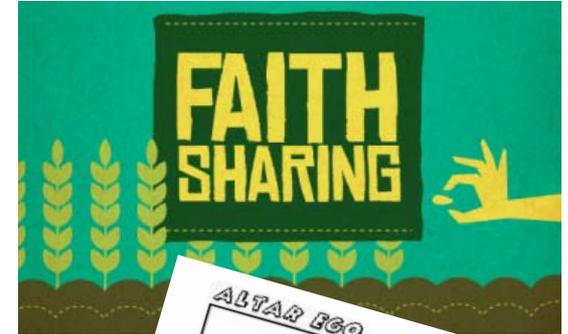
Missions and Outreach for Family



Missions and Outreach for Family



Family Ministries



CELEBRATE
RECOVERY

Generationally and Globally



Loving and Sharing our Legacy of Faith

