

Self Assessment

Let's start with where you are right NOW. We already know that the best guidebook for running your life is the Bible. Are YOU actually using it to run your home? Here are some topics to pray about and consider brining (or expanding upon) at your house. Rate yourself as a couple from 1-10 (10 being the best) and total you (honest) current score to share with the group at the next class:

Look forward and stop going back to comfortable. We can so quickly act like the Israelites as Moses led them out of Egypt and hijack our trip to the "Promised Land!" The challenge is to press forward and allow God to grow you and not go back to the things of life (even if they're not that bad) that keep you stuck in mediocrity. Your family needs more than that. Your family needs a Promised Land and you can make sure that you don't spend your existence wandering in the desert. Remember, that the temptation to 'go back to Egypt' is a lie -- there is no peace, no happiness, no freedom, in returning to old ways. Press on in faith and don't return to Egypt. *What is your "Egypt" that holds you back?*

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Become stronger leaders. Pray for the ability to think and act more like Jesus so you can grow into a stronger leader. Confess your mistakes and repent when you fall short; create clear vision and values for you and your family; hold yourself and your family lovingly accountable to your family values.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Build solid character. Never tell "white lies." Tell the truth even when it's not easy, or convenient. Follow through on your commitments even if they become more costly, inconvenient, or time-consuming than you'd estimated. Always put forth the extra effort necessary to do an excellent job. Don't give others false impressions, such as by omitting facts that reveal reality or offering excuses to disguise reality. Let go of grudges against people who hurt or offend you; forgive and reconcile right away.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Develop stronger people skills. Genuinely care about people. Value using your heart and not always your head. Learn how to confront and not stuff. Learn how to be efficient with things but effective with people. Listen more than you speak. Ask the right questions to engage others in good conversations. Don't keep score with people; serve them to express your love for God rather than because you're expecting something in return. Don't judge people or try to debate them into Christianity. Instead, love them and humbly tell them how your own relationship with Jesus has changed your life for the better. Control your attitudes and emotions to make them positive rather than negative. Look for ways to meet others' needs. Speak respectfully to people and well of them.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Maximize your time. Get rid of busyness. Identify your priorities and base your schedule on them. Don't let trivial tasks consume too much of your attention; focus on what's most important. Whenever you need to add something to your "to-do" list, take something off the list to make room for the new task. Trust God in every part of your life and tell Him that you want to use your time to fulfill His purposes for you. He will guide you to use your time well. Don't waste your time comparing yourself to others who have different talents. Instead, develop and use the unique talents that God has given you.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Overcome pride. Pride is a particularly dangerous sin because it not only separates you from God, it causes you to attack God by attempting to dethrone Him in your life and enthroning yourself as your own god. Ask God to help you cultivate humility, which will bring you both peace and success. Recognize that you're a sinner just all other people and are not superior to anyone else. Don't always insist on having your own way. Seek out and be open to Biblical instruction, reproof, rebuke, and constructive criticism. Submit to authority. Learn from others and accept help from them whenever you need it.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Model honor for your family. The word *honor* means to highly value something — to appreciate, cherish and recognize it as a priceless treasure. Matthew 6:21 says, "*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*" This verse suggests that honor is primarily a matter of the heart. So in marriage and family, it involves recognizing the beauty and worth of your relationship with your spouse and children and then doing something to put that recognition and appreciation into action. It's about dedication, heart and soul, to building strong foundational qualities into your family dynamic.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Create work-life balance. Build mental balance into your life by learning new information and developing new skills. Build emotional balance by constantly investing in your relationships. Build physical balance by getting enough sleep and exercise regularly and eating a healthy diet. Build spiritual balance by celebrating disciplines like prayer, Bible study, scripture meditation, and participating in church worship services. Build structure for all quadrants of life and make sure you are addressing them all with the same amount of passion (for Jesus).

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Manage your money well. Remember that all the money you and your company have comes from God. Give generously as God leads you. Avoid unnecessary debt and pay existing debt off as soon as possible. Don't concern yourself with the prosperity of dishonest people; keep doing what's right yourself and trust God to judge everyone fairly. Communicate more clearly about money, so there is no relational unrest.

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Start with WHY! *Why Jesus? What's blocking you from finding your passion - and integrating it into a balanced work/life dynamic? What's your reason for not living in your passion? And what are you going to do to change?* Create a practical plan to address the questions and topics above. If you don't integrate your passion into a balanced life, you will never achieve fulfillment. God gave you passion and He wants you to point that same passion back to Him. *He points His at you, so what will it take to have the same passion back?*

Rate/Discuss as a couple: _____

Total Score: _____

Improvement Goals to Discuss with Group: _____

