



**RIVERSIDE**  
CHURCH



# FAMILY CIRCUS

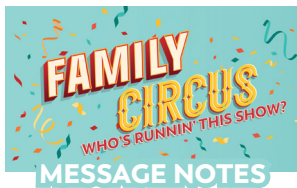
WHO'S RUNNIN' THIS SHOW?

**"IS THERE HOPE FOR MY FAMILY?"**

**NOV 6, 2022**

**PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN**

**MYRC.CHURCH**



# "IS THERE HOPE FOR MY FAMILY?"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

This series is for \_\_\_\_\_...

We all have parents, and we all live in a society that \_\_\_\_\_ studies have shown will benefit from healthy families (note **Proverbs 24:3**).  
...healthy families:

## 1. Prepare Children for Life

God designed families to be \_\_\_\_\_ for life.

Note **Luke 2:52** = \_\_\_\_\_ = intellectual/mental growth;  
stature = \_\_\_\_\_ growth; favor with God = spiritual growth;  
favor with others = \_\_\_\_\_ growth.

The moment you took part in conception you got a \_\_\_\_\_ description.  
(Warren)

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ - most relationship skills are learned in our family. Whatever dysfunctions we adopt...we have to \_\_\_\_\_ and relearn healthier habits. Good relationships don't happen \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Character - good \_\_\_\_\_ produce good character.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ - you hurt your children if you imply God is only an \_\_\_\_\_. It's \_\_\_\_\_ to help your kids understand there is right or wrong in a world that's confused (note **Isaiah 5:20-21**).

## 2. Shelter Children in Storms (not \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ storms)

God wants our homes to be places of peace, \_\_\_\_\_, and security (note **Proverbs 14:26**).

Common storms:

- A. Change - all change (positive and negative) produce \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ - no one wins all the time (note **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**).
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ - too many homes are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the storm and not the shelter in the storm (note **Mark 3:25**).

Families that are shelters in storms focus on:

- \_\_\_\_\_/affection (hugs/words).
- Affirmation (\_\_\_\_\_).
- Get help when they need it.

### 3. Have \_\_\_\_\_ Together

Note **Psalm 127:3**; **Ecclesiastes 11:8a**

If you wait until all your problems are gone before you start to \_\_\_\_\_, you never will.

### 4. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ Children to Jesus (note **Ephesians 6:4**)

Note **Proverbs 9:10**; **Philippians 3:8**

Knowing, loving, and following Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ issue of life and will impact them the most.

Is \_\_\_\_\_ a familiar name in your home because it's used only in positive ways?

## WHO'S RUNNING THIS SHOW?

- \_\_\_\_\_ families aren't an accident.
- They're intentionally built by wise parents who do wise things (not \_\_\_\_\_ parents)...
- There's hope for your family...
- ...hope that's based on commitment to Jesus as the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life (note **Joshua 24:15c**).
- ...your love and \_\_\_\_\_ to following Jesus makes a difference in the lives of students and children.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or hard copy).

\***MyRC.link/connect** or text **riverside** to **94000**



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Your group matters.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

*Share your favorite family vacation/outing memory (as a child or adult) and what made it so special.*

1. Pastor Tom referred to families as “learning centers for life” and indicated that relationship skills, character development, and core values make up some of the primary lessons taught or caught by children. Of these three areas, share one thing you most appreciate having learned or assimilated from your family, and one thing that you have had to unlearn and replace.
2. Read [Isaiah 5:20-21](#). This passage makes clear that the phenomenon of calling evil good and good evil is nothing new. How can the skills of listening, affirming, and leaning on your small group/faith community help clarify truth?
3. Pastor Tom stated that children need their families to be a secure shelter in the storms of life. Read [Proverbs 14:26 \(TPT\)](#). In your experience, how does devotion to God give you the ability to provides a place of shelter and security to the children in your life?
4. It’s been said, “all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy”. Pastor Tom indicated that it doesn’t do anything for children and their families either. Share how the presence or absence of “fun” in your family of origin has impacted you . How will you intentionally build fun into the life of your family?
5. Read [Ephesians 6:4 \(AMP\)](#). God’s will for parents is clear, so what steps can we take this week to begin parenting more like Him and less like us?

*Day One:* [Psalm 33](#)

*Day Two:* [Proverbs 3](#)

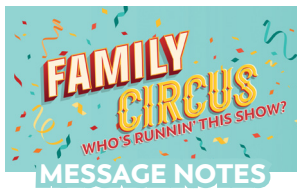
*Day Three:* [Judges 9](#)

*Day Four:* [Isaiah 33](#)

*Day Five:* [Acts 5](#)

*This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner’s Bible Reading System.*

## PERSONAL GUIDE



# "IS THERE HOPE FOR MY FAMILY?"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

This series is for everyone...

We all have parents, and we all live in a society that objective studies have shown will benefit from healthy families (note **Proverbs 24:3**).

...healthy families:

## 1. Prepare Children for Life

God designed families to be learning centers for life.

Note **Luke 2:52** = wisdom = intellectual/mental growth; stature = physical growth; favor with God = spiritual growth; favor with others = social growth.

*The moment you took part in conception you got a job description.* (Warren)

- A. Relationships - most relationship skills are learned in our family. Whatever dysfunctions we adopt...we have to unlearn and relearn healthier habits. Good relationships don't happen accidentally.
- B. Character - good habits produce good character.
- C. Values - you hurt your children if you imply God is only an option. It's loving to help your kids understand there is right or wrong in a world that's confused (note **Isaiah 5:20-21**).

## 2. Shelter Children in Storms (not from but in storms)

God wants our homes to be places of peace, stability, and security (note **Proverbs 14:26**).

Common storms:

- A. Change - all change (positive and negative) produces stress.
- B. Failure - no one wins all the time (note **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**).
- C. Rejection - too many homes are the center of the storm and not the shelter in the storm (note **Mark 3:25**).

Families that are shelters in storms focus on:

- Listening/affection (hugs/words).
- Affirmation (hope).
- Get help when they need it.

### 3. Have Fun Together

Note **Psalm 127:3**; **Ecclesiastes 11:8a**

If you wait until all your problems are gone before you start to enjoy life, you never will.

### 4. Keep Pointing Children to Jesus (note **Ephesians 6:4**)

Note **Proverbs 9:10**; **Philippians 3:8**

Knowing, loving, and following Jesus is the foundational issue of life and will impact them the most.

Is Jesus a familiar name in your home because it's used only in positive ways?

### **WHO'S RUNNING THIS SHOW?**

- Healthy families aren't an accident.
- They're intentionally built by wise parents who do wise things (not perfect parents)...
- There's hope for your family...
- ...hope that's based on commitment to Jesus as the first priority of your life (note **Joshua 24:15c**).
- ...your love and devotion to following Jesus makes a difference in the lives of students and children.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or hard copy).

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