

Called to Belong

How to experience Fatherly care in an imperfect world

What's the family for
Family – God's **idea** –
building **blocks** for society –
cell - for body – cancer
(greatest killer) call multi
abnormally

family was God's
idea. It's His institution so it
will always be around because
it is the building block of
society.

Lots of **forces** – **destroy**
families – it's finished
News: Not finished –
fragile – needs
strengthening – God has
not given up **hope** – **Mal 4**
God is the key

It is not finished. It is simply
fragile so it needs
strengthening.

Proverbs 24:3

3 By wisdom a house is built,
and through understanding it is
established.

Not **accident** – chance –
not natural or intuitive

New series – overcome
forces that destroy rel and
fam - how God re-establish
fam – for **you** ...

1. A family is a **shelter** in the
storms of life

Prov 14:26 Reverence for God
gives a man deep strength; his
children have a place of **refuge**
and **security**. TLB

Many many: financial,
moral, emotional, physical –
illness – death - failure

2. A family is a **learning**
center for **LIFE**

Luke 2:52 And Jesus grew in
wisdom and stature, and in
FAVOR with God and men.

Wisdom - intellectual growth;
stature - physical growth;
Favor with God -- spiritual
growth; and **favor with man** --
social growth.

Relate – char – **value**
God - **key** to pros

Prov 9:10 For the reverence and fear
of God are basic to all wisdom. Knowing
God results in every other kind of
understanding. TLB

Church – like a big family is a
place to **learn** – **priority**– becous
of only **limited** oport and hours
(once a week– **Sabbath**)

Jesus: And I will give you the

Keys ? Passage to heaven?
Exp **heaven** on earth!

How ? **Rev truth**

3. A family is a place to **play**

Ps 127:3 Behold, children are a
heritage from the LORD, The fruit of
the womb is a **reward**. 5 **Happy** is the
man who has his quiver full of them; ...
NKJV

Enjoy love and blessings of
God – not **work** – got angels -
evening

I can't – got **WORK** to do – my
work never finished – will never but

season

4. A family is a great **team** for
service

Contra? But when touched –
serve – without **realising** it's
sacri – joy – Mary

In the local ch, you develop
your life, and **relationship** skills.
Acts 13:1-2

God is **more interested** in the
relationships you **build** when you
serve **together** than the **service**
itself – **Char** – dev thru rel – not
mean BGR – Prov – dev char
quality to build rel

God is **MORE INTERESTED** in
the

Char - dev through **rel** – rub –
love – kindness – patience – cell
group – café – patience – jokers
Psalms 68:5 A father of the
fatherless, a defender of widows, Is

God in His holy habitation. 6 God
sets the **solitary** in **families**; He
brings out those who are bound
into **prosperity**. NKJV

Pros – any **limit** – BM 3 or 7 –
Bal? **season**

How to experience God as
Father

Simple – **look** at Jesus
Jesus came: **show** what the
Father is like, so that we can
experience him as Father. Joy
– pros – lamb

I. See Him in His GREAT Giving

John 3:16

16 "For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son, that
whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life.

Always see pain of Jesus – F
is just as painful if not **more**

Gave? – so loved
What are the ways we "give to
get" today?

Today – we tend to give – **to
get**

Often – translated into – att in
raising kids – as kind of
insurance policy – taken care
of in old age

Of course – **only right** – kids
must **honour** – all things will go
well

Many – kids – **think of
themselves** – **amazing** ...

Same way: the **main** reason –
give – out of **love** - new **nature!**
– not a law – obligation –
definitely not **greed**

2 Cor 9:5-7

5 So I thought it necessary to urge
the brethren that they would go on
ahead to you and arrange beforehand
your previously promised bountiful
gift, so that the same would be ready
as a bountiful gift and not affected by
covetousness. NASU

NIV grudgingly – greedily

Merely to get – **fear** (economic
situation) – **intimidated** (curse)

6 Remember this: Whoever sows
sparingly will also reap sparingly, and
whoever sows generously will also reap
generously. NIV
bountifully, out of grace, gratitude,
grateful giving

7 Each man should give what he has
decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly
or under compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver.

He can trust grateful givers - Paris
Hilton – 97%

Gratitude – most important **aspect**
of char – whole – 10 **lepers**

Worst char – ingratitude – Judas –
lost call

*Our giving is a **reflection** of our
gratitude and hence also our character.*

How do you **judge** a boy or girl

What is the Bible way of assessing
a person's character?

Look – **book** – **talk?**

Muscle – Arnold; **charm** –
Leonardo d Capri; **Wit** – Tom Cruise;
Comm. skill – Charleston Heston

No – how he **handles** money? If
always **borrow** – dump

It is not that he is **poor** – but becous
he does not know how to **handle** –

what he has **already** with
responsibly

But but he said: I love you

Wake up - People say: I love **BIG
MAG** – is that love – **hunger** -
desire – not true love – eat

Friday June 13, 2008 - **Woman**
loses RM50,000 in savings to foreign
lover

*JOHOR BARU: In the name of love, a
35-year-old woman did whatever her
man wanted.*

*She spent all her savings totalling
RM50,000 and borrowed more money
from friends to buy expensive furniture
for their "love nest."*

Heb: love **ahav** – root give

Boy always **demand** you to **sacri**
for him – dump – that is not love

Why is giving out of love not disappointing?

*Giving out of love will never be **disappointing** because you derive **pleasure** in the very act of giving.*

Prodigal son's father – **regret**? No – **pleasure** in giving

Give out of love – gratitude

Giving to get is valid – but you miss the immed joy – the pleasure of giving

We give becos we are true sons – like the Father – give out of love

But promise from Word: James 5:7-8 So be patient, brethren, [as you wait] till the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious harvest from the land. [See how] he keeps up his patient [vigil] over it until it receives the early and late rains. AMP

Why is harvest always a reminder of grace?

There you see – you give – receive?

True – but you give one seed – one tree – many fruit – thousands seeds

Grace – God give rain – environment – opportunity- Hidden wealth - OIL

God is very **very unfair** - unfairly good – blesses us despite ...

Romans 11:16

16 If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

First fruit – many teachings – best Marshall – tape counter – Num 18- exp the Commanded blessing 133

The **tithe** like the first fruit – make the whole **HOLY**

Why need made holy?

1 Timothy 6:17

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who **richly provides** us with everything for **our** enjoyment.

Some thing **uncertain** about \$

- Many still feel – **1997** crisis – suddenly several country's money value dropped - suicides

Shield – made holy - Most powerful safeguard against – any economic **uncertainties**

Isaac – so blessed despite econ crisis – **envious**

JM Kraft cheese founder - started – only wagon – broke down – started to tithe – 25% - only investment paid well consistently is money given to the Lord

Psalms 20:3-4

He will remember all your offerings and make fat your burnt sacrifices. He will **give** you according to your **heart** and he will **fulfil** all your plans. LITV

Fat: favour accept

Genesis 2:10-12

10 A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. 11 The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. 12 (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.)

Many **great** rivers – from – Eden – first – flows into a region – with **gold**

Gold is **good** - Money is not root of all **evil** – wrong translation – it's the love of money

Can **love** money – when no money too

David – Abraham – extremely rich

See him as father – give **like** him – becos his son – receive **more**

Next week: See the Father as he really is – exp radical supernatural changes in yourself and others.

Also: Why do kids of **godly** parents at times also go astray?

Adam, Noah, Samuel, Daniel Even if **perfect** parent – kids still rebel?

How to deal w rebellious kids and parents!