



## Spiritual Legacy Evaluation (Adapted from *Your Heritage*, by J. Otis Ledbetter and Kurt Brunner)

Go through these questions first on your own, answering them about the family you grew up in. Put the letter G—for “Growing up”—next to the appropriate answer. Now, go back through the questions and put the letter N—for “Now”—next to the way you would answer for your family today.

### To what degree were spiritual principles incorporated into daily family life?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Frequently
- Almost always
- Consistently

### Which word best captures the tone of how you learned to view/relate to God?

- Absent
- Adversarial
- Fearful
- Casual
- Solemn
- Intimate

### How would you summarize your family’s level of participation in spiritual activities?

- Nonexistent
- Rare
- Occasional
- Regimental
- Active
- Enthusiastic

### How were spiritual discussions applied in your home?

- They weren't
- To control
- To manipulate
- To teach
- To influence
- To reinforce

### What was the perspective in your home with regard to moral absolutes?

- If it feels good, do it!
- There are no absolutes
- Let your heart guide you
- Legalistic rules
- Conservative values
- Clear life boundaries

## Session 2: *Marriage: Your Children Are Watching!*

### **Video Notes**

### **Bible Journey**

- ▶ Ephesians 5:21
  
- ▶ Ephesians 6:5–9
  
- ▶ Ephesians 6:1–4
  
- ▶ Ephesians 5:22–24
  
- ▶ Ephesians 5:25–27

### **Family Night Activity**

- You'll find instructions for the **Family Night Activity** suggested in the video and others on **ItStartsAtHome.org**. Try an activity with your family this week and come prepared to talk about how it went next time you meet.

## Intentional Marriage Checklist Adapted from *It Starts at Home*, by Kurt Bruner and Steve Stroope (p. 58)

### ***In the last two months, have you . . .***

- had any "date nights" with your spouse to focus only on one another.

About how many? \_\_\_\_\_

***NOTE: Experts recommend at least two per month.***

- offered some tangible expression of love to your spouse—a love note, flowers, a special chore, a gift (not for birthday, Christmas, anniversary, or Mother's/Father's Day)

About how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

***NOTE: Experts recommend at least two per month.***

- called during the workday, sat down to chat, taken walks together, or pursued some other kind of focused, non-task-driven communication with your spouse.

About how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

***NOTE: Experts recommend at least three times per week.***

- prayed with your spouse (other than grace over meals)

About how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Grade yourself in the following areas . . .***

I regularly show love to my spouse with affirming words and meaningful touch.

- Excellent    Good    Fair    Need to be much better

I observe healthy boundaries and accountability to resist temptation (sex, time, bitterness, addictions) that would hurt my marriage.

- Excellent    Good    Fair    Need to be much better

I make a consistent effort to take care of myself physically and emotionally to be the best lifelong partner I can be.

- Excellent    Good    Fair    Need to be much better

I try to apologize and/or offer forgiveness when necessary before we go to bed.

- Excellent    Good    Fair    Need to be much better

Something specific I'd like to do in the next week to improve on one of these areas.

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## AROMA Therapy

*A* **A is for AFFECTION: 1-10 Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hug each other, provide caring touch, and often say kind things? Do your kids feel loved? Do the kids see mom and dad showing affection to each other?

What are some things that a low-graded home might do to improve in this area?

If a parent says, "I'm just not affectionate by nature," what course of action would you recommend?

*R* **R is for Respect: 1-10 Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Do the children respect the parents? Do the parents respect the children? Do husband and wife respect each other—and demonstrate this to the kids?

What are some things that a low-graded home might do to improve in this area?

If a parent says, "I'll show respect to my kids when they earn it by showing respect to me," what course of action would you recommend?

*O* **O is for Order: 1-10 Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an accepted schedule? Does the whole family observe certain customs, traditions, and priorities? Do people have particular responsibilities? Do people know what's expected of them? Do they know the rules? Granted, every home will have a measure of chaos, but is this causing anxiety or conflict among any family members?

What are some things that a low-graded home might do to improve in this area?

If a parent says, "I like to keep things crazy in order to nurture creativity," what course of action would you recommend?

*M* **M is for Merriment: 1-10 Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Do you laugh together? Do you enjoy one another's company? Do you spread this joy to others? Is it important for you to plan fun things to do as a family?

What are some things that a low-graded home might do to improve in this area?

If a parent says, "We have simple tastes; we don't need a lot of merriment," what course of action would you recommend?

*A* **A is for Affirmation: 1-10 Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Are you "cheerleaders" for your children? Do they know they have your support? Do you attend their activities and compliment them on their development? Do they feel that you are proud of them? Are they proud of you? Have you talked together about the love of God, the gifts of God, and how we can praise him and please him?

What are some things that a low-graded home might do to improve in this area?

If a parent says, "My kids know we support them; if we say it all the time, they'll get conceited," what course of action would you recommend?

## Session 4: *Truth: What Are Your Kids Learning?*

### **Video Notes**

### **Bible Journey**

▶ John 3:16

▶ John 3:17

▶ John 3:18

▶ John 3:19–21

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## Light Shining Exercise

Come up with a sentence or two that describes the values, priorities or opinions of the world around you for each subject. Then compare those answers to what Scripture says about each topic.

### **How to Treat Other People**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Matthew 7:12; Leviticus 19:18*

### **Money**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Matthew 6:19-24; 1 Timothy 6:6-10,17*

### **Celebrity**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*1 Corinthians 1:27-29; Jeremiah 9:23-24*

### **Having a Good Time**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Philippians 4:4; Ecclesiastes 2:1-2*

### **Technological Gadgets**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Psalms 20:7; Luke 12:15-21*

### **Hard Work**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Proverbs 6:9-11; Colossians 3:23-24*

### **Needs and Wants**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Matthew 6:25-34; 2 Timothy 2:22*

### **Self-Esteem**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Genesis 1:27; Philippians 2:3-4*

### **Religion**

Part 1: The Culture's Viewpoint

Part 2: A Biblical Viewpoint  
*Isaiah 29:13-14; Romans 3:20-24; James 1:27*

## Session 5: *Communication: Each Child is Unique*

### **Video Notes**

### **Bible Journey**

▶ 1 Corinthians 12:12–14

▶ 1 Corinthians 12:15–22

▶ 1 Corinthians 12:26–27

▶ Matthew 5:3–5

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## Are They Getting It? Exercise

### **Learning Style**

Researchers have identified three major learning styles.

1. **Auditory Learners** learn from *hearing*. Don't ask them to read things, but if you talk to them, they'll get it. Music is also helpful.
2. **Visual Learners** learn from *seeing*. Charts and pictures get through to them. They may tune out if you're just talking.
3. **Kinesthetic Learners** learn through *action*. They need to touch stuff, to try it out, to play with it. It's hard for them to sit still.

*For each of your children, consider which type of learner he or she is?*

**Group Question:** *What are the most effective ways to tell each of these types of learners about God?*

### **Gospel Response**

Others have suggested that different people respond favorably to different ways of expressing the good news of Jesus.

1. Some need a **Challenge**. "This is true. It's what you need. Will you accept it?"
2. Some respond to a **Mental** approach. Does the gospel effectively answer their questions about God? They want reasons and proof.
3. Some prefer **Stories**. Does this work in real life?
4. Some are more **Relational**. If they feel love from and toward the person who's presenting the gospel, they will want to accept it.

*For each of your children, consider which type of teaching they tend to respond to.*

**Group Question:** *What are the most effective ways to tell each of these groups about God?*

## Session 6: *Character: Preparing Your Kids for the Real World*

### **Video Notes**

### **Bible Journey**

▶ Hebrews 12:5–6

▶ Hebrews 12:7–9

▶ Hebrews 12:10–11

*What is the end we have in mind?*

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## Creative Outreach Exercise

**How could your family reach out to needy people with the love of God?**

**Could several families do some project together?**

**Could you make it a church-wide project?** (NOTE: Sometimes this works extremely well, but sometimes there's bureaucracy to deal with.)

**Might this involve the many people we listed at the beginning of this session—something like Christina was doing?**

**Are there other groups of people in the area with specific needs that our families could help meet?**

**What will we and our children learn from such a project?**