

*Family Matters*  
**A Blessed Home**  
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**I. Intro**

(UCYC Promo Video – pg. 1)

- A. Joshua 24:15 (NIV) *“But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”*
- B. Makarios (Greek) = Blessed = Happy, especially favored or privileged
- C. Beatitudes → “We Attitudes”

**II. The “We Attitudes” of a Blessed Home**

- A. We desire a Christ-centered life.
  - 1. Matthew 5:6 (NIV) *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.”*
  - 2. How to encourage a hunger for God
    - a. Involve God in daily conversations
      - i. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (NIV) *“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup>Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup>Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.*
    - b. Make church non-negotiable
    - c. Model an authentic faith
- B. We pursue purity.
  - 1. Matthew 5:8 (NIV) *“Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.”*
  - 2. Create a culture of purity
    - a. Starts with you
      - i. Proverbs 4:23 (NIV) *Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.*

b. Parent to the heart

- i. Matthew 23:25-26 (NIV) <sup>25</sup>*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.* <sup>26</sup>*Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean."*

C. We are peacemakers.

1. Matthew 5:9 (NIV) *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."*
- a. Eirene (Greek) = Shalom (Hebrew)
- b. Shalom = "The highest good"
- c. Peacemakers = "Make the highest good"
2. How to be peacemakers
- a. Tell the truth (in love)
- i. Ephesians 4:15 (NIV) *Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.*
- ii. Attack the issue, never the person
- b. Say sorry (and mean it)
- i. James 3:17-18 (NIV) <sup>17</sup>*But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.* <sup>18</sup>*Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.*
- c. Forgive and let go
- i. Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV) <sup>12</sup>*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.* <sup>13</sup>*Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.* <sup>14</sup>*And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*