

WE ARE NOT JUST A _____ HOME. WE ARE A _____-CENTERED FAMILY.

- IF YOU ARE A CHRIST-CENTERED FAMILY, YOU WILL BE _____.

Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (verses 11-12)

“Everyone else is doing it. Why don’t you?” Because we are a Christ Centered Family.

PREPARING YOUR FAMILY FOR PERSECUTION

- 1) _____ IT. 2 Timothy 3:12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

But Here’s The Big Picture John 15:18-20

Next Step: This week our family will discuss what we do for righteousness sake that might cause a bit of persecution. I will help my family understand the “why” behind the persecution.

- 2) _____ IT. 1 Corinthians 4:12 ...When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we **endure it**.

- Do not repay evil for evil. 1 Peter 3:9
- What about Jesus on the cross? Did he complain, whine, or retaliate? Luke 23:34
- **When family identity is _____, peer pressure is weak.**
- **When family identity is _____, peer pressure is strong.**

Next Step: This week our family will begin to understand, pray for, and bless our persecutors. In doing so we will inherit God’s blessings.

- 3) _____ IT. 1 Peter 4:12-13 and 16

If you are a Christ-centered family—you will be persecuted.

Don’t worry when you are...worry when you are not.

Matthew 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Next Step: This week I will help my family understand why we should rejoice and be glad during persecution.

Life App Group and Family Devotional Application

1. What’s one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
2. What types of persecution have you endured as a result of striving to have a Christ-centered family and life?
3. What steps might you need to take to better prepare your family for persecution?
4. How would you describe your family identity? Is it strong or weak? Explain.
5. What do you think about the statement, “Don’t worry when you are persecuted. Worry when you are not.” How does that statement make you feel?
6. Describe a time when your family endured persecution. How did it affect your family? Did it make your family stronger or weaker?
7. What’s your vision for your family? What’s one thing you’ve learned from this series so far that will help you accomplish that vision?

Answers: Christian – Christ / Persecuted / Expect / Endure / strong – weak / Embrace