

# HEART CONNEX

*Truth Flowing from One Generation to the Next— Through Strong Heart Connections*

## STUDENTS PAGE

**November 1-3, 2009**

*Unbiblical Definitions of Family*—Richard Ross, Ph.D.

**1. Heart Surprise (Today a parent goes first):** After your parent speaks to you, say: **(Use your parent's full name) . . . I love you, too. Give your parent a bear hug.**

Something from the *Heart Surprise* I want to remember:

**2. Read Scripture:** Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; and John 17:17

### **Truth**

- Any definition of "family" that contradicts God's definition is false.

### **Untruths**

- The biblical idea of family is narrow and out of date.
- Most people are smart enough to create their own definitions of family.
- Any group of people who lives together and likes each other is a family.

**3. Explore Scripture:** Write what you want to remember about the Scriptures.

**4. Think It Through:** Ask your family the following questions and discuss their responses:

- **Who gets to decide whether  $E=mc^2$ ?**
- **Who gets to decide whether a particular solar system will get sucked into a black hole?**
- **Who gets to create life?**
- **Who gets to define marriage?**

Remind your family that the answer to each of these questions is *God*. Emphasize that as Creator, He sets the boundaries of physics and biology. Say: **Because He created us, He also has the right to set moral and ethical definitions in our lives, such as marriage and family. Anything that contradicts His definition is incorrect.**

**5. Nail It Down:** A parent will lead this step.

**6. Pray:** A parent will lead this prayer.

**7. Blessing:** Listen as your parent blesses the family.

**Teen Tip:** Go to your parents and ask: **How do you respond to disappointing news?** Encourage them to share a time when they received disappointing news. Ask: **How did you get over it?** Ask your parents how you can pray for them this week.