

HEART CONNEX

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

STUDENTS PAGE

November 4-7, 2009

God's Design for the Family—Richard Ross, Ph.D.

1. Heart Surprise (Today a parent goes first): When it's your turn, say: **If I happen to be the first to die, the rest of you may have to choose an epitaph for my tombstone. I would like to live my life in such a way that you might choose the phrase . . .**

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

2. Read Scripture: Genesis 1:22; Mark 10:6-9; and 2 Corinthians 6:14

Truth

- In general, God's design for the family is a Christian man and woman raising children in a lifetime marriage, but God will bless and use all forms of family when the members of that family love Him and obey His commandments.

Untruths

- The Bible doesn't really have a lot to say about families.
- Gay couples are just as much a family as anyone else.
- God won't bless blended families or single-parent families.

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

4. Think it Through: A parent will lead this activity.

5. Nail It Down: Make a fist and say: **This family will stand fast for God's design and definition of the family.** Then, extend your palm and say: **This family also will be compassionate toward those who have missed God's mark. We will lead broken families back to God so they can find His present purposes for their lives.**

6. Pray: Ask God to lead you to the Christian spouse He has prepared for you. Ask Him to give you courage to stand for His principles and the compassion to care for those who fail.

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

Teen Tip: You are blessed when you see your parents serve God. Identify one action they've taken that involves service to Him. Tell them that you appreciate the example they've set in this area.