



HOW TO ESTABLISH YOUR FAMILY'S CORE VALUES

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FAMILY CORE VALUES

Three years after Marcus and I had been married we decided to begin building our tribe. We didn't over think it really. We just decided it was time to have a kid, or two. Or three or FOUR!!

I think whether we feel ready or not, whether we have been dreaming it up for years or simply seemed like a good idea we all get excited to have a family. I was. And then I had four kids under five and simple tasks like taking a shower or unloading the car to run into the store and grab milk or bread became some of the greatest challenges of my day. I longed for my kids to just grow up. I had gifts, talents and dreams. This little crew of kids was holding me back from living the life I had hoped and I had been minimized to wiping. Wiping butts, countertops and noses. I remember tearfully crying out to God in the kitchen one afternoon and asking, "is this is?" No identity, no grander purposes, nothing more than this daily mundane routine of naps, parkdates and feedings? He spoke very clearly in that moment. Jennifer, that's serious...take care of THIS. Invest here. In this moment. In these little people I have gifted to you. Build your tribe, love them well and EVERYTHING WILL be an out pouring of what happens here, in this home with me FIRST.

1

I will remember who God says we are and stand on it.

1 Peter 2:9, "But you are a Chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

What qualities do you possess? What do other people say about you? Allow these qualities to shape the description of your first core value.

2

I will make courageous Faith my family's foundation.

2 Timothy 4:18, "The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom."

What did you cling to in your darkest hour? How has that shifted the way you approach your life?

3

We will live a stand-up life in a bow-down world.

What lasting impact do you want to make in the life of others? What do you want them to walk away with having been with you?

4

My Tribe will stand Boldly for God.

Matthew 10:32, "Stand up for me against world opinion and I'll stand up for you before my father in heaven."

What is the enduring legacy you want to leave behind? What inspires your daily move forward?

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