

# **FAMILY SEASONS, PART 7**

## Outline #7 Keys to Family Unity

Praise Him in the Heights (Psalm 148:1-4)

### 1. The blessing of God

- a) What Scriptures remind us of God's desire to bless our families? Genesis 2:21–22; Mark 10:13–16
- b) God desires to bless every family. How can we become more receptive to His blessings?

#### 2. The love of God in our hearts

- a) Human love is inadequate. How can our families be filled with the love of God?
- b) 1 Thessalonians 3:12
- c) 2 Thessalonians 3:5
- d) Romans 5:5
- e) How does the apostle Paul describe this agape love of God? 1 Corinthians 13:4–8
- f) Why is the appeal of the Apostle John so relevant for our lives today? 1 John 3:18
- g) Share a time when you saw the love of God revealed in a remarkable way in your family.

## 3. An unselfish spirit

- a) Philippians 2:3-5
- b) Share an example from the Scriptures where a selfish attitude damaged a family
  - i) 1 Samuel 25:2-26 Nabal and Abigail
  - ii) 1 Kings 21:1-16 Ahab and Naboth

- iii) Luke 15:11–13 The parable of the prodigal son
- c) Share an example of a family blessed by an unselfish attitude, either from the Scriptures (e.g. 2 Samuel 9:1–13) or from your life today

### 4. Submitting to one another in love

- a) Ephesians 5:21
- b) Ephesians 5:22-33
- c) Ephesians 6:1-4
- d) What is the difference between forced submission and submission as a gift of love?
- e) What are some ways this idea of submission has been misused?
- f) How does the story in John 13:3–17 illustrate submission to one another in love?

## 5. Keeping our promises

- a) Why is keeping our promises vitally important for family unity?
- b) What are some reasons why family members fail to keep their promises?
- c) Ecclesiastes 5:5 Why is it better not to make a promise than to make a promise and fail to keep it?
- d) Share a promise a family member made. Was that promise kept? How did that promise kept or promise broken impact your life?
- e) How can you offer support to an individual or family suffering as a result of broken promises?

