

Chapter 3 *Families*

Every family, in heaven and on earth, takes its name from God. *Ephesians 3:15*

To the Parents:

In chapter 3 your child learned the following:

- To list some ways he or she celebrates with the family
- To name some good values he or she has learned from the family
- To detail some ways that he or she can contribute to a happy family

A television crew went into the homes of three families. The families knew the cameras were rolling, but after a while they got on with life as they normally lived it. One woman criticized her husband when he strolled into the kitchen wearing socks with his sandals. A man flicked on the TV when his wife left the room. When she returned a minute late, she was upset because she thought he was ignoring their conversation. A dad lectured his teenage daughter about a family rule she had broken.

The point of the program was that we sometimes hurt the ones we love most. And we often are not aware of it! In fact, these people thought they were acting out of love. Sometimes thoughts and feelings are not well expressed.

Family living is a growing process. God made people to live in families so that they could be nurtured and cherished, but also so that they would be inspired and helped to mature spiritually.

All families get into habits. Christian families are called to live more and more in faith, hope, and love of God, and therefore to love, forgive, trust, and have faith in each other.

With Your Child:

1. Who in your family seems to have problems? Who has difficulty expressing love? Say a short prayer for that person and try to be more sensitive to that person this next week.
2. Together read the story of Ruth found on the Review and Explore page.