



Seeking to deepen my relationship with my Family:

First of all consider these scriptures:

Ephesians 5:22-6:4, Colossians 3:18-25, Proverbs 31: 10-31, Exodus 20:12,
1 Timothy 3:5, 2 Corinthians 12: 14-15

We may not all have a wife/husband/children, but we might have parents still alive, brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews etc. We are all part of a family.

The family is God's basic building block for society, and when the family falls so does the nation. The family is under severe attack and Christian families are not immune. We have great responsibility before the Lord to keep our family and to strengthen it and protect each member of it.

This task is far from easy, it takes great skill and wisdom to juggle all we have to do and be in the family, especially when added to that is a busy work life and then Church life on top. That is why it is so important the Church at least should recognize the importance of family, encourage healthy families and provide for family time.

Stronger Lives does this. Families use the time well - You are accountable to God!

For those with children at home –plan an evening together - around some food, maybe a family film, play some games - go out for a trip, have fun. Have some deep and meaningful. Do you know as a parent what your children really think of you and the home ? - that is a challenge! Let every family member tell what they think about family life, what is good, what could be improved. Have a table conference and decide what actions might be taken to improve family life and by whom. Write them down, each family member is accountable to the others.

If your children have left home, why not sit down and write to them – both mum and dad. Emails are easy, letters are better. Tell them what is going on at home, ask them what they are up to and what you can do to support them in their families etc.

For those with no immediate family consider if there is any estrangement in the larger family that God wants you to seek to put right. Is a visit to a family member long overdue? Or maybe you could help out with babysitting to allow spouses a night out together.

Remember there is help available to strengthen marriages and families.