



## **FAMILY STRONG – Mother’s Day - “Four Traits of Extremely Strong Families”**

PREACHER - DAVE HASTINGS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE – Genesis 2:18-25

### SERMON SUMMARY TWEET

- Strong families create strong cultures.

### ACROSS THE BOARD APPLICATION

- Biblical principles of marriage cross over to all family settings.
- Married/single, children/no children, two parent homes/single parent homes, etc.

## **FAMILY CULTURE**

### **Promote**

- \* Wow
- \* Open

### **Prevent**

- \* Ehhh
- \* Closed

### PROMOTE WOW, PREVENT EHHH

- Genesis 2:23 – Adam looks at Eve with hormonal excitement and three times says, “Wow.”
- Studies show honor/worth is a key ingredient of successful families.
- A thankful spirit enables “wow” to overcome the natural tendency of “ehhh”.

### PROMOTE OPEN, PREVENT CLOSED

- “Not good” (2:18) occurred because relational intimacy was absent.
- Genesis 2:25 – sin caused the openness of relational intimacy to be closed.
- Men must step up to the plate in this area!

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Ice Breaker – What different kinds of family settings (married/single, kids/no kids) have you experienced throughout your life, from childhood to adulthood?
2. If you had to describe the “culture” of a successful family, what are some of the specific traits you would include?
3. In Genesis 2:18 we find that God determines it is not good for Adam to be alone. Why do you think God made that claim?
4. The single/not married population continues to rise in America. Why do you think that is? What are some of the benefits and challenges of being single?
5. Why do you think the natural flow of a family over time is to develop an “ehhh” culture with each other; a nonchalant, take each other for granted, spirit?
6. In the sermon it was suggested that expressing specific gratitude for specific aspects of each family member can promote the “wow” and prevent the “ehhh”. What would some of those things be for people in your family setting?
7. Why do you think some people are more open with their feelings and thoughts than others are?
8. Was your family setting while you were growing up open or closed in communication and expressing feelings?
9. Why are men normally more closed than women?
10. What can you do to get better at being open with members of your family?

