

## **GUARDING YOUR FAMILY**

*THIS IS US, #5*

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Woodland Church

Sunday, March 11, 2018

*“I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me,”*  
(John 10:14, NLT)

### **1. STAY CLOSE TO GOD.**

*“Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.”* (James 4:8, NLT)

*“We were God’s enemies, but he made us his friends through the death of his Son. Now that we are God’s friends, how much more will we be saved by Christ’s life!”* (Romans 5:10, GN)

*“I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn’t confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. You didn’t choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. This is my command: Love each other.”* (John 15:15-17, NLT)

*“I want your constant love, not your animal sacrifices. I would rather have my people know me than burn offerings to me.”* (Hosea 6:6, GN)

### **2. TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO REVERENCE GOD.**

*“Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his promises.”* (Psalm 25:14, LB)

*“And when you come before God, don’t turn that into a theatrical production either. All these people making a regular show out of their prayers, hoping for stardom! Do you think God sits in a box seat? “Here’s what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won’t be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.”* (Matthew 6:5–6, Message)

- a. Say and do only what the Father does.
- b. Love God with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength.
- c. Worship God together.
- d. Pray with your children.
- e. Never use the Lord's name in vain.
- f. Teach them the Bible.
- g. Live a virtuous life.
- h. Be consistent with discipline, promises, and your obedience.

*“The Fear-of-GOD is a spring of living water so you won't go off drinking from poisoned wells.” (Proverbs 14:27, Message)*

### **3. TRUST THE GOOD SHEPHERD THROUGH THE DARK VALLEYS.**

*“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.” (Psalm 23:4, NKJV)*

*“I wish for the days when I was strong, when God's close friendship blessed my house.” (Job 29:4, NCV)*

*“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” (1 Peter 5:7, NLT)*

*“If you'll hold on to me for dear life,” says GOD, “I'll get you out of any trouble. I'll give you the best of care if you'll only get to know and trust me.” (Psalm 91:14, Message)*

## **GROWTHWORK**

### **1. START IN FAITH.**

*“Your baptism in Christ was not just washing you up for a fresh start. It also involved dressing you in an adult faith wardrobe—Christ's life, the fulfillment of God's original promise.” (Galatians 3:27, Message)*

### **2. WALK IN FAITH.**

*“We walk by faith, not by sight.” (2 Corinthians 5:7, ESV)*

### 3. **FINISH IN FAITH.**

*“This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.” (Romans 1:17, NLT)*

*“Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.” (John 11:25, NLT)*