

Edification - Edifying Your Family

Edification comes from the Greek words meaning - a home and to build - literally: to build a house.

Literally:

- A. the building process - Matt. 7:24 - verb
- B. the structure built - Matt. 24:1 - noun

Figuratively: of building/building up

- A. the church (the body of Christ) - 1 Cor. 14:3-5 1 Cor. 14:12
- B. fellow believers 1 Thess. 5:11 - do for one another
- C. The Kingdom (generally) Rom. 15:20

Edification is a simple concept. (We use it in everyday speech)

BUT: it is a **very** important concept. *i.e.*: we as Christians are to be **intentional** about “building up” others.

As Christians, we are to:

Encourage one another

Be devoted to OA

Bear with OA

Serve OA

Honor OA

Admonish OA

Be patient with OA

Pray for OA

Forgive OA

Be kind and compassionate to OA

Bear OA’s burdens

Spur OA on to good works

Stop judging OA

Accept OA

Agree with OA

Offer hospitality to OA

Instruct OA

Submit to OA

John 13:34-35 inclusive/umbrella vs: Love one another

Rom. 16:16 (a) - “greet one another with a holy kiss”

So.....

Point #1 - As a Christian, you have a God-given responsibility to edify others Rom. 14:19

Point #2 - If this is true of our brothers and sisters in Christ, how much more true of our immediate family???

”How To Edify Your Family?”

Specific answer is not hard to come by. The problem is that the specific answers are so **many**, so varied, and depend on the situation.

Examples: prayer, instruction, exposure to the Word, wise use of your words, loving discipline, loving touch, understanding needs, meeting those needs, time, attention, building relationships

The List of specifics is long and varied. Therefore, we will focus on **important** generalities. Generalities are the structure that underlies the specifics.

#1. Recognize Your Responsibility.

#2. Recognize your Ability. Called to perform means you are entrusted with the ability to get the job done. However, you can't do this without the help of the Holy Spirit.

#3. Know what you're trying to achieve (accomplish)

This is not about building a doctor, lawyer, senator, athlete, scholar. It is NOT about your vision for them. It is about GOD'S vision for them.

#4. Decide. There are three kinds of people - well-poisoners, lawn mowers, and life enhancers. Life enhancers must be focused and intentional.

#5. Re-decide. If you are building a great edifice (structure), you must develop your skills..... architect, engineer, corporate, etc.

#7. Work at it. Rom. 14:19 It takes “effort”

#8. Remember your partner in the process. (the Holy Spirit) Work **with** the Holy Spirit.