

# Strong Godly Families

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# Characteristics of Strong Families

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Commitment



Appreciation



Communication



Spend time together



Strong value system



Ability to deal with crisis

I would add at least one more: proper role assignments.



# Characteristics of Strong Families

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Stennett and DeFrain *Secrets of Strong Families* (1986)

Choose families on two characteristics

- Reputational
- Subjective

Found Six characteristics

These are universal

Not surprising when we see how similar they are to biblical principles



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*Genesis 2:23-24 (23) And Adam said:  
"This {is} now bone of my bones and flesh  
of my flesh; she shall be called Woman,  
because she was taken out of Man." (24)  
Therefore a man shall leave his father  
and mother and be joined to his wife, and  
they shall become one flesh.*

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**Marriage is not a Reformatory!!**

**Choose the similar not the exotic!**

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**Marriage is not a Reformatory!!**

**Diamond Hunters not Injustice Collectors**

**Tokens of Appreciation**



**Children want to be appreciated too!**

**Courtesy** *(Prov 31:26 NKJV) She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness.*

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- Five levels of Communication
- Clichés.
- Reporting.
- Ideas and judgements.
- Feelings and emotions
- Intimacy.

*I Pet 3:7 Live with them with understanding*



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- Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse (Gottman)
- Criticism
- Contempt
- Defensiveness
- Withdrawal



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- Most frequent complaint of adolescent Children

*HEBREWS 5:14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, {that is,} those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

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- Two warnings
- Biggest part of communication is listening
- Don't say everything you're thinking

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- Husbands and Wives need time together

*(Deut 24:5 NKJV) "When a man has taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, and bring happiness to his wife whom he has taken."*

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- Your children need your time



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Spend time together

- Your children need your time

Journey of Happiness



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Spend time together



- Your children need your time

*DEUTERONOMY 6:7*  
*"you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.*

***YOU DON'T TRAIN UP CHILDREN IN THE WAY THEY SHOULD GO WITHOUT SPENDING TIME WITH THEM***

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Ability to deal with crisis





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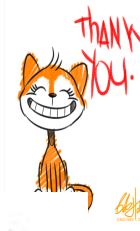
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*(Eccl 4:9 12 NKJV) Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. {10} For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up. {11} Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm alone? {12} Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken*

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The main point is not techniques but biblical values!



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**GOLDEN RULE: Do Unto Others As You Would Have Them Do Unto You!**

