



Scott Turansky, Senior Pastor
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FAMILY MINISTRY

[PRAYER] Lord, I just thank you for the men and women that I met with this week. Thank you for the privilege of being part of the things that you're doing globally. I'm just excited to hear it and inspired by that. Now Lord, I hope that you'll help me to communicate some of that to my brothers and sisters here so that they too can experience the positive news that we don't often see in the regular news that we read. That you are at work and that people are becoming Christians and that your ministry is expanding all over the globe and reaching people in powerful ways. So thank you for that glimpse this week for me and I pray that you would bless my brothers and sisters as they hear more about it today. In Jesus' name, amen.

So obviously we're going to break from our study in 2 Corinthians just for one week. We'll be back to that study next week as we continue on learning more verse by verse through the Bible. But my week this week was packed with inspiration and excitement and I want to share my work with you so you can get excited about it as well.

But before I do, I want to say this to you: Because as you look at what we're doing around the world, you might be saying, "I wonder if he's going to do that full time or something." That question gets asked of me all the time. The answer is no. My first love in ministry is Calvary Chapel Living Hope. When I get up in the morning I study God's word and prepare the sermon for you. I'm leading, looking for ways to lead, praying for the people that are here, caring for the situations that are going on. I'm looking for ways that God might use me at Calvary Chapel Living Hope. And that is my first priority in ministry, so that limits the other things that I do, as you'll see. I'm not doing a lot of things that my comrades are doing in other places because this is my priority. But the reality is a lot of the things that I'm doing in these other places are affecting what I'm doing here. So your ability to understand the impact or the immensity of what we're doing may be helpful for you as well.

So I want to share with you what I do in my spare time. I represent the National Center for Biblical Parenting, an organization that Joanne Miller and I started about twenty-five years ago. We teach parenting seminars most every week. This week at the end of the week I'll be at Immanuel Lutheran Church at Seymour, Indiana teaching a parenting seminar and helping that church develop their discipleship program for their church. Most weeks of the year I'm doing something like that, speaking somewhere.

Joanne and I have written fifteen books on parenting. We brought a table out here and you can see books that we've written, resources that we offer with the National Center for Biblical Parenting, awards that we have, pictures that we have taken with people like Dr. Dobson, Brett Gardner of the Yankees (if you're a Yankees fan). When we spoke to the Yankees we got a

picture of Brett with us. We have trained 150 presenters who teach our live parenting seminars, who can teach them around the country. We've trained an army of coaches. I'm training eighteen of them right now in an online environment. So they're in an eight-week program of training where they're learning how to help others.

We have a mission. Our mission statement at the National Center for Biblical Parenting is to equip parents to use a heart-based approach and empower churches to disciple parents. It's a two-prong mission. One is to reach directly into the lives of parents who need help working with their children. It's different than behavior modification. It is a heart-based approach. That is very strategic and foundational, not only to the strength of parenting, but also to our theology and our faith. We also have programs that disciple churches and help churches know how to work with parents. So we have lots of programs. We have four training video programs. We have large group programs, small group programs, and one-on-one programs that church can use for discipleship.

In our ministry as we develop these tools, we have four goals. These goals are strategic for us because they determine how we develop solutions. Those four goals. First, we're biblical. That doesn't mean we find a solution and find a Bible verse to tag onto that. That's not how we work. We first do Biblical studies and after we do those studies we come out of those studies with practical ideas. So that's the practical.

The third is that we're focused on the heart, which is very important. And fourthly we look for adult solutions to children's problems so that children are not growing out of solutions, they're growing into them. Those four goals drive the resources that we have. So we've developed over the last twenty-five years a package. This package has strategies and tools that produce heart transformation in any child at any age with any problem. That's not hype.

One guy came to our seminar that we did at a Children's Pastors Conference and he said, "It sounded like hype to me, but now I've seen what you actually do and I realize that's real that you're doing that." It is powerful what we do.

If you have a child with autism, we have solutions that can help you using a heart-based approach. If you have children who have attention-deficit disorder, we help them using a heart-based approach. If you have oppositional defiant disorder, we have solutions that use a heart-based approach. If you have arguing with your mother when she says no disorder, or the disrespect your father when he tells you what to do disorder, we have solutions for those things using a heart-based approach. Powerful things happen in the midst of this package.

Now this package has been created now over the last twenty-five years and it is really strong. It forms the integrity of who we are. It's powerful and it reaches deep into the heart of a family.

Let me just give you one testimony from one of the coaches that was trained. Her name is Candice Jennings. She's from Oklahoma and she's working with a mom of an eleven-year old girl with sensory processing disorder. We get the presenting problem when we start a new case with any child. We want to know what the presenting problem is before we start developing solutions. Her presenting problem is that the child is territorial. "This is my stuff. Don't get into

my space,” and so on. She’s easily offended by things that are going on and she’s very angry. You don’t get to see the extent of the problem here, but those are the presenting problems. It’s pretty extensive. This girl experienced significant change when her mom was trained by Candice to work with her in a particular way that we designed.

So Candice’s testimony is this: “The work you and Joanne have done here is remarkable. It’s actually more than that. I only wish I had found this earlier. I’m sure you hear that a lot. I feel so much more equipped and excited for how much more I still have to learn. I can’t imagine any parent who wouldn’t benefit from this teaching. It would have saved me and my children a lot of mistakes. I’m so privileged to be part of this training. It’s an answer to a prayer that I have prayed for years. I just can’t thank you enough for the help you’ve provided. I’m praying for the worldwide distribution of these materials, an exponential growth in the coaching program.”

It is reaching countries all over the world. Right now in the coaching training I’m coaching someone from South Africa and someone from Australia. So we have people coming to America for the presenter training. We had someone from Kenya, someone from South Africa, and someone from England at the training that we did last month. But the coaching training takes place in your own home. So we have people from all over the world who have participated in that and using the material cross-culturally to make an impact in countries all over the world. So it’s very powerful. That package now becomes a strategic piece that has given us integrity and people are looking at it and they’re saying, “We want that package.”

Now we have three theological truths that drive our ministry. These are very important truths. The first one is that parents are the best counselors for their children. We believe that. We believe parents are the best therapists, the best trainers for their children if they have a good plan. Our job is to give the plan to them. That’s our desire. To show them what the plan looks like so the parents can do that better than anyone else. I want to suggest that parents do a better job of passing the faith onto children than Sunday School teachers, pastors, or a Christian school. It’s the parents that we invest in. That’s theological truth number one.

Theological truth number two is the church is God’s vehicle for change in the world. The church is responsible for discipling people and part of that discipleship mandate is not just to teach them Bible, but to apply it to the parents in their lives so they can take Jesus home into areas such as their finances, their parenting, their marriage, and so on.

The third theological truth is the heart is the place where major change starts. That’s Jesus’ message. *Out of the heart is where the mouth speaks. Where the treasure is there your heart will be also.* Jesus had a message about the heart that we’re taking and importing in to the parent-child dynamic and it’s producing some rather significant results in the lives of people.

Now I want you to know and I want you to be praying for Ed Miller in the next month. Ed Miller will be crossing the United States on several trips, taking these trips to share the message of the National Center for Biblical Parenting. His goal is to raise money in all of these different cities. He’s raising money and he’s obtaining donors and advocates for our ministry so that we can raise the exposure of our ministry to more people so that more people can have access to it. That’s the

goal of what he's doing. He's going to be traveling through all these cities over the next several weeks. So please be praying for him as he does travel and do that.

On Sunday, December 3rd, he's going to land back in Lawrenceville where he lives and he's going to host one of these advocate donor events at his home. I'd encourage you to put that on your calendar and go there and learn. You will learn so much about how transformation takes place. The transformation takes place in the life of a child. As you watch Ed demonstrate. In some of these places he's going to actually demonstrate it with young people. I don't know if he'll do that on the one on December 3rd, but he's also going to share more about the ministry and how it impacts people. It's just really powerful. Please pray for him. You might not see him much in the month of November because he's doing so much traveling.

But I want you to know that when you're trying to raise money for parent ministry, it's not as easy as raising money for disaster relief. When a hurricane takes place, it's a terrible thing and bad things happen. So our hearts are drawn to that and we say, "We've got to help these people who are the victims of the disaster." That's kind of an easier way to raise money for those kinds of things. But Ed's message is this. He's going around saying there's a bigger storm going on inside the lives of a child today, in the lives of families. That storm has to do with pressures that are on our young people and our children like never before in the history of our world. The pressures are huge and parents, grandparents, and mentors are key in this process. We have tools that can help bring a significant thing into the lives of these people and he's going out to share that message so that so that people can find out more about it.

The National Center for Biblical Parenting has some great tools. The world is recognizing that and people are coming to us. It's not like we're going to them. Awana came to us in 2005 and said, "We have a problem." Do you know who Awana is? Awana is this club program group. If you are choosing between scouts, something for your kids to do, I'd encourage you to choose Awana. If we had a church building and our church was larger we would probably have an Awana program going on. Closest Awana here is at GraceWay Church. They have a great program for Awana. I'd encourage you to be involved in that. They're having us come in and speak in February. You'll hear more about the life seminar we're going to do at their church come February.

But Awana realized they have a problem. Here's the problem. They are caring for children one at a time. They're helping the children grow spiritually, but they're saying the parents are sitting out in the parking lot waiting for the kids to be done or they go shopping and pick up their kids. We need something else. We've got to do something for the parents. They want to do Awana at home is what they're saying.

So in 2005 they came to the National Center for Biblical Parenting. They bought 5,000 copies of our book *Parenting is Heart Work* to use in their programs and they started using our presenters. Remember we have 150 trained presenters. That means they're locally distributed all over the United States. So our presenters then are invited in to Awana conferences. So Awana leadership goes into various conferences. They get 200-300 people together who are leaders and our presenters present information about parent training that they can take back and enhance the Awana program. So some churches are able to that.

Claude and Stephen Harrier are part of our presenter team and they sent me this email a couple weeks ago. You can see it's dated. I just copied this right off my computer. They're reporting on the Awana conference that they did. "Claude and I had a great time at the Awana conference in Mount Vernon and Spokane, Washington. We had three workshops in Mount Vernon and four workshops in Spokane. The Mount Vernon conference had about 250-300 in attendance and Spokane had about 700." These are leaders. These are influential people that are going back and influencing others. "The workshops were well attended. The Emotions Workshop in Spokane had 60+ with people spilling out to listen at the door. We were also able to sell quite a few books. Thanks for the opportunity to represent NCB at these conferences. We would welcome any further opportunities with Awana or other conferences."

They're also parent coaches, by the way. You notice in their comment they're saying, "We love this program. We can take up to four families at a time." I myself will take seven to ten families at a time. I have seven right now that I am working with. Ed Miller is taking on seven himself. The coaches each have a quota that they can accept for helping parents change.

Awana has taken this idea of parenting training to the next level and they've come to the National Center for Biblical Parenting to get that kind of help.

Other organizations have also come to us. For example Concordia University said, "We have a masters level program. All of the masters level students who are going to get Family Life Education degree need to go through a parenting class and we don't have a good parenting class. Where do we go to get a good parenting class?" They were told that if you want biblical parenting you go to the National Center for Biblical Parenting. So they called me and asked me to develop their course, which I did. Now every student going through the masters level program in family life education has to pass through my class that I designed.

Some of the students are saying, "This is the best class I've ever taken because it's so powerful." I have every one of the students working with a family during the class and they get to see families change. They might not even have any kids, but they're seeing families, miracles taking place in the lives of parents because of this package that we've developed and distributed in the midst of all of this. Amazing things happen in that particular situation.

Well there are many other organizations that have been a part of this with us. One of them I want to share with you is Transform World. This is the global outreach that is just so amazing to see what God is doing all over the world in family ministry. But before I do, I want to share with you a little bit more about what happens in churches when churches get a glimpse of this particular ministry.

So we've done seminars at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa (the main Calvary) and many other Calvary Chapels have come to the National Center for Biblical Parenting for resources. We do live seminars and help them develop discipleship programs for parents. It's about developing an integral part of who you are as a church that ministers to families. I put the one Immanuel Lutheran Church because that's where we're going to be this week. There are hundreds of churches that are involved.

First Baptist Church is a church that has 10,000 people. They have ten coaches that are being trained by us that are going to work one-on-one. They had a live seminar where we came in and taught live, and they have small groups that they're running right now using our material because they want to become a family-centered church.

I want you to understand the difference because most churches have something going for kids. Right? They have a kids program of some kind. If you're doing well, they're actually teaching them something. We're not talking about just children's ministry. We're talking about in a church changing children's ministry and youth ministry to family ministry. That's a significant change because it involves the parents and the programs. Instead of parents being disconnected and saying, "Well I'm doing my job by taking my kids to church," we're integrating the parents to work with their children in order to do powerful things.

That's where it comes back to our church because we are doing this at our church. At the National Center for Biblical Parenting we've developed a lot of resources, but at Calvary Chapel, which is a completely different organization, they are not merged at all. I'm kind of blending them together a little bit, but I want you to know they are two completely separate entities, two different 501(c)(3) organizations. They have different mission statements. But at Calvary Chapel Living Hope we want to be that kind of a church.

So one of the reasons we bring kids up is not because they're cute (although it is really cute to have them come up. I love it), but we bring them up because we believe in these children, that God wants to do a work in them. It's powerful to be doing that work.

Now I'm encouraged that a lot of people come to Calvary Chapel here who don't have children. There's a lot of single people, a lot of seniors who come here. I'm really grateful. So you know a lot of my sermons are targeted toward young people because I want to reach the next generation. But as we do that, the rest of us know we can apply these truths to our lives as well. I just don't want young people to think they're going to be a Christian someday. We're taking the ideas and we're applying them at Calvary Chapel Living Hope: to have parents involved with youth when we do a youth group, to have intergenerational mission opportunities so that we're working together to reach out and serve together, that in worship we have our children with us so they're learning how to worship the Lord and that we're trying to build strong marriages. We're trying to strengthen parenting in this church. So this church really is a family ministry church.

So let me just give you a quick overview of what it looks like. If we go into a church and a church says, "Hey, we want to become a family-oriented church, this is what we do," we say it starts with theology. You've got to get your theology straight. We've written this pamphlet. These are back there if you want to read it. I encourage you to read it. This talks about the theology of the family. So you get this rooted into your faith. We're saying to church leaders understand the theology.

We're working in churches all over the world, but these churches have things in common. They might have different denominations, but they all believe that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. They all believe that the Bible is foundational for our understanding of life. They all

believe that the family has a blueprint that God designed that has one man, one woman in marriage. All of the churches around the world we work with believe that.

This foundation for theology is important because we don't want churches just adding a program. "Oh we'll run a parenting class." No. We're trying to build this into the DNA of our church that we're doing discipleship in the midst of that.

There's also this booklet called *The Family in Crisis*. If you haven't seen this, it's out on the table. You can take some of those as well. This is the booklet we use. Both of these documents were designed. You can see the people who designed them on the back. It's the team that I'm a part of that I met with this week. There are six of us on that team. We design these theological pieces that can be used by churches to get the foundation down properly. I'd encourage you to look at those. They're on our website. You can have access to them at Calvary Chapel Living Hope. They are important to us.

So we get our theology straight and then we start with leadership families. Don't start with everybody else. Let's make sure the leadership families in the church have strong marriages, that they're working using biblical tools with their children. That doesn't mean all the kids are going to be successful or obey their parents. We're trying to work to that. But we're saying are we using tools we need that are going to strengthen families. So we start with leadership families. Notice we haven't done any programs yet. Let's get the core down.

Now the first thing we want to do then, if we're going to start getting out there and develop family ministry is we want to get the Bible, prayer, and worship into the home. I know you guys are thinking about getting married over here. I want you to know it starts right here. We want the Bible, worship, prayer, spiritual interaction going on in your relationship right now. Every marriage, every family. That's why our website is Take Jesus Home. It's not just a gimmick. We want you to take Jesus home into your home. Take the Bible, talk about it. What's going on in your home. If you want to do family ministry, we're suggesting to these churches that's what you've got to do.

Then we suggest you do multigenerational worship. That happens in a number of different ways in different churches, depending on if you have 10,000 or if you have 100 like we have. And then discipleship. Discipleship includes asking these questions. I hope you come to church at 9:45 because that's when we start. That's when these questions are asked: How are you doing in your relationship with God? How's it going in your family? That's one that's often missed in many churches. How's it going in your family? How's your marriage doing? How's it going with your kids? How are you doing in the church? How are you doing in your work world, classroom? And so on. Now once you get those things done, then you can do programs, events, activities, small groups, and so on that will help foster that and generate it. That's what we do when we go to churches. I'm not just talking about America. I'm talking about churches all over the world. That's the message that we take to them.

This is the team of people that I met with this week. We're holding the awards that we received. The award is sitting out there so you can look at it. But these two guys are on the left are part of a family-oriented church. They started the church about the same time we did. That's Dr. Rob

Rienow and Jason. Then PC Matthew is the next gentleman with his wife, CB. Then Matthew Ling is our leader and he's with his wife, Rose. And then me and then there's Ben Freudenberg, Jennifer. They head up the Concordia Center for the Family.

Now these six men are responsible for generating activity and providing resources for the world. It's just a phenomenal task that we have in the area of family ministry. That's our job. So we sit around in these rooms and we have Skype sessions where we're talking about how can we take this to the next level. But we're connecting with all these organizations that want material. So Rob has all this marriage material. We have parenting material. And these other guys are supporting this and bringing this all together in some strategic ways.

I know some of you saw this video. Some of you didn't get to see it. This is Matthew Ling.

[Start of Video]

Hi folks, this Sunday I want to give you an update on what's going on globally in the family of ministry movement. I've been spending time this week with Matthew Ling, our director, and several other global leaders in family ministry. We're a family ministry church providing an opportunity for others to see the kinds of things we're doing. But I want you to hear Matthew talk about why family ministry church is important. So Matthew, tell us why is it important, not just in America but globally, to have your church be more like family ministry?

[Matthew] I want to thank the church for releasing your pastor to be with us this week. It is important because we don't automatically become good how we live in the godly ways at home, just being Christians. Being Christians we don't automatically become good parents or good husbands and wives and so on. We need to be disciplined. I think there is something we all need as we need to learn how to pray, how to worship God, how to read the word of God the same way we need to live God's ways at home. Every one of us at different life stages, there's so many things we need to learn. We cannot use common sense. Not all common sense leads to good, God's ways. So we need to be disciplined. That's why the key in family ministry is to learn to be mentors and to learn to live God's ways at home. We are a committee of believers. So I'm encouraged to hear that your church is a family-based church and gives so much emphasis to family discipleship. God bless you.

Thank you, Matthew. It's just a privilege to be with these guys and learn more about what God's doing around the world in family ministry and we are a part of it.

[End of Video]

So now let me take you globally a little bit and show you what's going on around the world. This is the picture of the Christian population in countries in Asia. So I'm just going to spend time in Asia. We don't have time to go to what's going on in Europe. I might talk about South America just a little bit. But in Asia this represents the Christian growth in these countries. You can see in the chart that the largest circles are 100 million Christians. The small pink circles are 1 million and the black circles are less than 100,000 Christians. I just want to point out of a couple stories.

In China for example the Christian population is growing. Now Jack Egar who used to be the head of Awana has started his own ministry to develop children and families. I recently was with

him at a conference and he says, “Oh good. There you are. I need to talk to you.” I said, “What’s going on?”

He says, “You’re not going to believe what’s happening in China. China is feeling like the morals in China are declining, so they’ve asked every business organization to develop a value system. They need to choose some value of some kind to emphasize. There’s a group of businesses that want to emphasize the family. That’s what they emphasize, so they have come to me and I have access to them. They came to Washington D.C. for me to meet with them for a couple of hours to explain some things to them about what we could do in family ministry. So I’ve been talking to them about you and others and if there’s anyone who’s going to do parenting, we want you to come help us do this in China. I met with them for a couple hours in Washington D.C. and they wanted more. So I ended up meeting with them for two days in this hotel. We got a room there we could meet and we just met for two days talking about it. They want so much more they want us to come to China to train leaders.”

I say, “Wow, that’s amazing.” Now you’ve got to understand I get invited to go internationally to speak regularly and I keep saying no. Because I’m a pastor at Calvary Chapel Living Hope I can’t be going all around the world speaking. I’ve trained all these people. They can go and do a lot of this. But it’s very possible that in this situation I may go to China in order to do this training sometime if the Lord allows that to be the case.

In South Korea, all the ones with red lines happen to be ones where we’re specifically working right now. In South Korea the largest church in the world, by the way, is in South Korea. It’s huge. Pastor Cho is leading a church in South Korea. It’s a Pentecostal church that loves the Lord. They had last year 900,000 people in their church. That’s kind of a big church I would say. Can you imagine a church of 900,000 people? But the church over the last year has declined to 700,000. They have a problem in South Korea in the Christian church. The problem is that this next generation that’s coming up is not on fire for the Lord like the first generation was. They’re having trouble with it. They want to know what to do. They realize now that the solution is we’ve got to get more emphasis on family, family worship, things that are going on in the home. We’ve got to do more of that. So Matthew Ling was meeting with Pastor Cho about this and they are interested in more family ministry. Just strategic.

Let’s go over to India. I’ll share more about India in just a moment. You know that Compassion International was kicked out of India this year. 160,000 children being cared for by Compassion are not being cared for by Compassion Ministries right now. It’s just a challenge for them as they’re trying to minister in India. Each one of these countries represents significant activity that God is doing. You can see that the Christian population is growing significantly.

And Nepal. Do you see Nepal up here, the little one? They had 10,000 Christians in Nepal twenty years ago. Now they have over 2 million Christians. Now that the first generation is growing and the second generation is coming up and they want to know what do we do? How do we train these Christians who didn’t grow up in the Christian homes? How do we train them to work with their children? They’re looking for solutions to be able to do that in Nepal.

And so there are meetings going on. Not just the meetings I had, but this is a regional meeting, WEA. Notice the bottom guy, secretary general. That stands for the World Evangelical Association, representing 130,000 churches around the globe who are evangelical churches who were saying we want to do family ministry. 130,000 churches are interested in family ministry. We're the parenting arm for that.

You've got these other Matthew Lings in the upper left-hand corner from Malaysia. He's from Malaysia. You've got all these different leaders represented from all these areas and they each represent networks of people. These are the people who have come together as the primary leaders of each of those countries to go back and influence so many people just in the Asia Evangelical Alliance.

Three conferences in India alone. PC Matthew is the one heading up these conferences, but this is the one in New Dehli. This is the one last year in 2016. This is Pune. Also there are 1.3 billion people in the nation of India and PC Matthew is significantly relating to many of those churches that are trying to grow. These are leaders representing churches who've come together who say, "We want to take family ministry back to our churches. How do we do this?" I don't know if you can recognize the guy on the far left. His name is Maco Susai. He spoke here in our church last year when he was here getting trained by the National Center for Biblical Parenting. Just strategic ministry taking place.

I want to tell you about the opportunity we have with Compassion International. This is just amazing. Here's what Compassion's ministry looks like. This is Compassion's map. Compassion International is an organization where you can sponsor a child. The blue are the countries that have sponsored children. The yellow are the countries that are sponsoring children. So you can notice all the countries all over the world. I just noticed Thailand over there on the right hand side because I'm going to refer to Thailand in a moment. All over the place. Notice India is not on the list at the present time.

Compassion's mission looked like this until this year. So the goal is to reach one child, and a family like yours from a church can minister to that child. Compassion's ministry is through the church, so they have churches in that area who are caring for people specifically and as they do, they're realizing we could be doing more. That's what they're saying. We're only ministering to each child, helping them to be doing well, but we're not ministering significantly to the whole family. We could do more to minister to the whole family. How can we do this? So they're now using resources from the Family Challenge movement in Transform World, Concordia Center for the Family, and the National Center for Biblical Parenting in order to make that happen.

Now I was contacted last month by Compassion International Ecuador. "We have seventy leaders that want to be trained to parenting and use this package that you have on parent training. We've heard about it. We want to use this. Would you come down to Ecuador and train these seventy leaders?" Basically I said I don't travel outside of the United States. You can come. We sponsor people to come to the United States to train them, but there are certain conditions where I will go outside of the United States and that's if I'm going to train leaders that are going to pass the word, pass the message on. In this case, that's one of those times where I may go to Ecuador and I may train the leaders in Ecuador with Compassion International to reach the churches that

they're all affiliated with and networking effect here as we're moving forward and down the path.

This is the eight-nation Bangkok training. Eight nations from Transform World Family Challenge, that's part of the organization I'm in. I head up with five other guys the Transform World Family Challenge. That's who we are. This was a meeting of eight nations that I didn't go to in last October in Bangkok in order to bring training to these leaders from eight different nations so they could take family ministry back to their churches. It's just strategic to see what's going on.

In Nepal, one of the poorest countries in the world. India, who's a very poor country, they can't afford anything. A person makes 100 U.S. dollars a month. That's how much money they make. They're just so poor and they are caring for the people in Nepal. PC Matthew has a mission group that nets the Family Challenge movement that I'm working with. That's our group in Nepal who's being trained to do some amazing things. We're very excited about that.

This is Compassion now. An actual booklet that Compassion Points puts out called *Signs and Indicators of a Child Transforming Church*. I want you to see this because this is the kind of church we are. I'm going to bring you back to our church so that you can see what we're doing. Compassion realizes we need to be child-transforming churches. How are we going to do this? You can't read this, I know, but I just want you to see the purple one there. I'm going to blow that one up in a minute. That's a piece of something bigger on this compassion manifesto of what they're going to do. This is what we are. This is what we're doing at Calvary Chapel Living Hope.

Let me read you this compassion statement about the family, number three, honoring the centrality of the family. The church promotes the active involvement, the families in the lives of their children and friends and partners with families to impact the spiritual, physical, and emotional well being of children and youth through the following things: One – the church leaders and workers always help children and youth to honor their parents. You can do that. You're right around here talking to kids. Honor your parents. It's a biblical mandate. So we're helping kids do that. Number two – the church effectively helps the church build stronger families. Number three – Christian parents in the community are always the first ones to share Christ and His gospel to their children. We want parents to be equipped to talk about the gospel with their kids. Four – Members consider the church as part of their spiritual family because the reality today is that we have families that are in all kinds of conditions. We've got families where not both parents are on the same page, we've got some parents who are split, and we've got single parents, we've got adopted parents, foster care, grandparents raising children, and we have the safety net that God calls the church family to be a part of that. So they're tying into that there. Children and youth need to see the parents, guardians as important role models who inspire them to become followers of Jesus. That's what we're trying to do here.

It's just amazing, and to hear all the stories it's hard to condense all the things I heard and learned this week and give you those updates.

But let me just tell you, if you want to get involved, there are some things you can do. One is to stay informed about what's going on in the Family Challenge movement, and pray for what's going on. Attend the formal meeting on December 3rd, if you'd like. If you're interested in more about that, you can do that. I would also encourage you to get involved at Calvary Chapel Living Hope. Let's get involved. Do the work here because churches out there are looking at us. Matthew Ling says, "I would like to meet with you to see more of what you're doing. I want to meet with you and Rob, and see how you're doing family church so we can use those as models and help other churches that are small or medium sized or large know what to do." So as you're working and getting involved in Calvary Chapel Living Hope, talk about family with each other. How can we strengthen family relationships? Help with the children's ministry.

Did you see all those kid that went out today? Maybe you would consider helping with those kids as we're trying to build into those lives and help them understand more about God and who He is.

Give to Calvary Chapel. If you're not regularly giving to Cavalry Chapel, I'd encourage you to do that. Be part of what God is doing in this place. I want to say that because it is an opportunity for you to give to the National Center for Biblical Parenting and become a donor, but don't do that before you become a donor here at Calvary Chapel. Let's make our infrastructure strong so we can do the mission that God has called us to do. Should you want to become a donor or an advocate for family ministry, the National Center for Biblical Parenting is a strategic way to do any of that. If you're interested in any of those things you can mark that down on your communication card. I read all those communication cards myself and I'd be happy to pass those on to other people and let them know what's going on.

We have five couples here that are getting married. I just want to pray for them. So we've got Dan and Kimberly. We've got Megan (Walter is not here today). We've got Josh and Ashley. We've got Jeremy and Akin. And we've got Tim and Margie. What we do in premarital work is really important. We want to build strong marriages. I just told you who they are. I'd encourage you to talk to hem. What makes marriage work? If you're married, you should talk to them. If you have some challenges in your marriage, maybe you should talk to them and kind of give them a preview of what marriage is really like. They're in the honeymoon stage or the engagement stage. Sometimes they don't get it all. We want to build into these lives of these young people that are getting married right here in our church. Five couples. That's big news and I'm really grateful. I trust that God will work in the lives of those people as we continue to move forward.

Let's pray for Ed and his ministry. What he's doing this weekend is phenomenal and then he comes back and starts traveling all over the place. Pray for me. Joanne and I leave this afternoon, if the weather permits. We're flying to Awana headquarters to do some filming before we come back tomorrow. And then we're traveling all over the place, creating new resources. We've got a two-year project that we're working on to create some more resources for the church. Lots of things going on there. We'd love to have you be apart of it.

Would you stand with me? Let's pray together.

[PRAYER] Lord, I thank you for the privilege of being a part of this church. Lord, we have a grand mission to reach the hearts of people and we ask that you'd help us to be effective in doing that. I pray for each person that's here that you'd give them a distinct calling and anointing on their lives. Lord, we pray for these five couples. Give them discernment. I pray that you would draw the couples close to each other, that as they prepare to become husband and wife they would understand so deeply what that looks like and how powerful it is. Lord, I ask that you would be working in their hearts. Protect them, lead them, and guide them we ask. Heavenly Father, we pray for Ed as he represents the National Center for Biblical Parenting in this next month. Keep him safe and healthy as he's engaging in so much activity in a short amount of time. The guy has so much energy. I'm grateful that he's part of our team and that he's one of your kids. So thank you for blessing us with him. Lord, I pray that you would bless the work that we do at the National Center for Biblical Parenting. Extend our reach; make these resources available to transform the next generation. It's those kids that we know that are being raised that need help, and we ask that you'd bless our work as we do that as well. In Jesus' name, amen.