

**1. The first family**

- a) Genesis 4:3-7 What clues can we find in this narrative that confirm an educational process occurred for members of the first family?
- b) The personalities of Cain and Abel were quite different. Why is it important to remember personality differences when providing education in the family?
- c) Sometimes parents feel like failures as teachers when their children make poor choices. What can we learn from the experience of Adam and Eve?

**2. Family training in Israel**

- a) Deuteronomy 6:5-9 What important principles can you find in this inspired counsel that will help us to build strong families today?
- b) How had the LORD provided for Moses as a young child? Exodus 2:1-10
- c) How does the conduct of Samuel's mother Hannah, provide an example for all parents? 1 Samuel 1:9-18, 19-28, 2:1-2, 19-21.
- d) What other stories in the Hebrew Scriptures illustrate the impact of godly parents?

**3. The family of Jesus**

- a) Luke 1:26-28
- b) Matthew 1:18-24
- c) Luke 1:46-55
- d) Luke 2:39-52

- e) What challenges did Jesus encounter in his earthly family? John 7:2-5 (Matthew 13:55-56)
- f) What important lesson can we learn from the encouraging testimony recorded by Luke in Acts 1:14?

**4. Building a strong family**

- a) What lessons can we learn from Solomon about how to build a strong family? Proverbs 6:20-23
- b) What counsel does the apostle Paul give husbands and wives in Ephesus who desire to build strong Christian families? Ephesians 5:22-33 (see also 5:22)
- c) Why is the parenting counsel in Ephesians 6:1-4 so important for families to remember and implement?
- d) What lessons have you learned from your own experience about how to build a strong Christian family?
- e) What encouragement would you give to someone who acquired poor attitudes and destructive behaviors in an unhealthy family environment?

