

## Day 7

### On your mark, continued

Today we'll take some time to determine our goals for our families and our homes.

Our families should have goals, too! What's your family message or mission? This is something we don't consider often enough. I believe God has something He wants to say to the world around us through Christian families, and too often we go through life as individuals pursuing our own ideas but never coming together to make something happen. It's like the commercial where mom comes in the door and sees her husband and his friends cheering at the big screen football game (smiles), walks past the daughter and her friends who are dancing around the room listening to walkmen and working on the computer (smiles), then passes the boys in yet another room who are into their video game (more smiles), and finally goes to her own room, puts on her headphones and begins to paint. The commercial means to be showing this great life that these people supposedly have, but from the first time I saw it, I've thought, "That's the worst thing I ever saw!" With all the new technology, we could really live absolutely separate lives even under the same roof. Surely God has a better plan!

Have you ever thought about that? Take some time today to do it again, or for the first time! Ask the Lord what He's put you together for--you, your spouse, and each of the precious children He's given you as gifts. Why did He do so? You may get some answers by considering . . .What are some of the strongest impressions you get when you think about your family? What would other people say?

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If you were to define what you wished your family "spoke" to others just through its existence, what would you say?

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Now, ask the Lord what HE \*wants\* to say to others through your

**family! How do those things mesh with your own thoughts?**

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**The next part is related! The world is a pretty rough place for children--adults too! We all need a place to truly "come home" to; a place where we feel loved and nurtured and appreciated. What do you want your home to feel like? How do you wish to use it to serve your family?**

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**How could your home be used to serve your neighborhood? Your extended family? Your church or community?**

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**What does God say to you about that???**

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