



## Ideally Speaking

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**Scripture:** Ephesians 6:1–2; Colossians 3:18–19, 21; Matthew 19:3–8; Matthew 5:27–28; Matthew 19:3–8

**Idea:** *There's a tension in the house. We dare not resolve it. Ideal.*

### Introduction

For six weeks we are going to talk about family.

*Today:* Introduction.

*Next week:* A POWERFUL question that if everybody began asking it could change the dynamic in marriage or family.

*Week 3:* I'm going to explain why you fight and how to take enough edge off to make progress.

*Week 4:* I'm going to talk about reconciling.

*Week 5:* We're going to talk about everything Sandra and I have learned about raising kids.

*Week 6:* I have two options; can't decide.

Let's begin with a couple of things we all agree on:

*When it comes to family of origin, we didn't have any choice in the matter.*

1. You can pick your friends, but not your family. At times you would pick your friend's family.
2. It is the hardest and most rewarding part of life. Part of what makes it so difficult is that . . .
3. The terms father, mother, son, and daughter are never emotionally neutral.

*No one you are related to is as smart as you are.*

4. You don't know how it is that you got all the common sense/intelligence, but you did. If only our families would take their cues from us.
5. If everybody would see the world the way we do, the world would be—*probably worse*.
6. There have been so many times when I was sure I was right . . . only to be proven wrong.
  - Years ago I noticed that our kids had an easy time apologizing when they were wrong. I mentioned it to Sandra. She smiled and said, “That's because they hear you do it so often.”
  - That's when I decided to start cleaning my room, hoping it would catch on.

