



Ideally Speaking

Andy Stanley

Well, it's good to see all of you today. We're starting a brand new series, called *Future Family*. It's going to be a lot of fun. I want to welcome those of you who are watching online, those of you in the West auditorium over here with me, all over Atlanta area campuses, our strategic partner churches, on television. It's fun to have a broad audience, especially on a topic like this, because it impacts all of us—because all of us have families. So, let me tell you where we're going. Today is an introduction, which means at the end of today you may have more questions than you had when you came in here. That's okay. We don't think in terms of sermons, we think in terms of series. So you're at the very beginning. This is just the introduction. Next week it's going to get really practical. I'm going to give you the best question you could possibly ask within the context of family. If you can get everybody in your family to ask the question I'm going to share with you next week, it could change everything. That's not an exaggeration; it's a very powerful question. So even if you're not like a religious person or church person, even if you don't like today, you definitely don't want to miss next week, because it will work for you regardless of your belief system.

Third week we're going to talk about conflict: fighting, quarreling within the family. Just want to make sure we're all on the same page—how many of you have ever had a fight in your family of origin or your current family? Yes, and half of you have already lied and we're only five minutes into the service. So, how about that? Yeah. So talk about that around lunch. So the third week we're going to talk about quarreling, and why families fight, and what you can do to take the edge off of it so you can actually make progress. So, don't miss week three.

Week four we're going to talk about what about these family members that the relationship is so bad that you can't . . . You know, family reunions are awkward, you don't have any contact with them anymore or it's just strained, maybe a father, and you want to reconnect but what do you do. We're going to talk about those relationships. And then the next week it's going to be fun. It's going to be a random Sunday where I'm going to tell you everything Sandra and I have learned about parenting from birth through twenty years old. That's as far as we can go. And it's just going to be a mind dump. There are not even going to be any verses. It's going to be a terrible sermon. It's like, here's everything we know about parenting. It may not be true, it may not be right, but here's what we think. Okay, so it's like our opinion on parenting and our experience. It's going to be a lot of fun.

