

# SHALOM *in the Home*

## Week 2: "Seek First"

Aloha everyone! Or should I say, "Shalom-ie my Homies!" Because we are in Week 2 of our brand new series, *Shalom in the Home*. I can't take credit for that by the way, Pastor Lori came into staff meeting last Tuesday saying that, now I can't un-hear it and neither will you.

Last week, to kick off our series, we got to hear from the Spice Girls, Melissa Henderson and Pastor Theresa, or as I call them, Vanilla Spice and Sriracha Spice. They cast a vision for where we are going in this series. Remember they said Shalom represents wholeness, and in order to experience Shalom in the Home, we need to **Give God Control** and adopt His vision for our family. What is God's vision for family? It is that families would **Provide**. Now certainly, we provide basic necessities like food, water, clothing, Netflix :). But more than that, our homes are to provide Godly wisdom and instruction. One of our favorite verses here, and the most famous verse in all of Israel, the Shema says,

*<sup>4</sup> "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One. <sup>5</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up,"*  
(Deuteronomy 6:4-7 NIV).

This is the Lord's vision for families. When God says, "Impress them on your children," is He talking to school teachers, youth leaders, or pastors? No! He's talking to parents. He's saying our homes are to be the place where we provide Godly wisdom and instruction, as we sit around the house, as we're driving in the car, having dinner around the table, going to sleep and waking up. And what is our endgame? That every person in our home loves the Lord their God with all their heart, soul, and strength. Our endgame is not Biblical proficiency, ministerial efficiency, ethics or morality. All those things are great, but what we want most of all is Spiritual Intimacy. Yes, I'm going to teach my kids God's Word, I will teach them how to serve, but what I'm after most is do you love Jesus with all of your heart, soul, and strength? All of those other things serve that purpose. My primary role as a Husband and a Father is to provide a home where that takes place. This is God's vision for our home. Is this our vision for our home?

**OG Discussion Question: Do you agree/disagree that this is God's vision for family?**

So in these first two weeks we're talking about, Giving God Control. It starts with adopting God's vision for our family and putting Him first. Then we're going to talk about, Owning My Role. I'm super excited because we're going to do something brand new. Over the next few weeks we're going to have 3 different panels to learn about how each member in the family plays a critical role toward wholeness. Next week we'll hear from married couples, the following week we'll hear from kids in the Church, and the third panel we'll hear from parents. Then we'll close our series by talking about, Making Life Whole. When each of us adopts God's vision for our family and owns our role, we will experience Shalom in the Home.