

# Family Values

*Andy Stanley*

## I. Introduction.

- A. A value is what is important to a person.
- B. Values are ultimately determined by behavior.
- C. Families are changing because what they are does not match what they ought to be. Our culture simply changes the rules.
- D. We must not let what is define what family is.

## II. The new definition of family is based on feeling and not form.

- A. Family is not defined as caring and love. God defined family, and we have no business redefining it.
- B. Family in the Bible is not necessarily a love and caring group—limiting it to a feeling does not do it justice.
- C. God thinks the family is a man and a woman for life with the possibility of children.
- D. Text: Genesis 2.
- E. The definition of family cannot be changed because the reality does not match up to the ideal.

## III. The solution to many problems is family.

- A. When divorce touches a family, children become victims.
- B. When divorce touches a family, there is incompleteness.
- C. It will become Christians' responsibility to declare that God really hates divorce.

### **Application questions:**

1. How is our culture defining family in the wrong way?

---

---

2. What is family according to the Bible?

---

---

3. How would you respond to someone who argues that family should not be defined by who is a part of it because traditional family has failed so badly?

---

---