



Grut family

Summer 2012

# THE INSIDE RUNNING

I heard the opinion that having children doesn't make you a family, you are a family before children come along. I'm still not sure about that, but it makes you think.

Today with blended families, childless families and those facing incredible challenges, nothing is really simple or straightforward anymore.

When we had a baby, people told us to enjoy him and make the most of it because time passes quickly. At first it didn't seem to, but they were right!

Gary Grut refers to family stages and this is one of the most important things to understand. We tend to look backwards instead of forwards. That inhibits parents from encouraging their children to mature and blossom.

I am a strong believer in family memories, milestones and creating events. Even simple things can inspire kids. Recently both my 19 and 22 year olds have wanted to have a campfire and toast marshmallows – a desire created from pleasurable memories.

All too soon children grow up and leave. Are the parents still a family with no children at home? Of course they are. The bigger question is, are mum and dad still friends and loving companions who want to grow old together?

Yes, children can be a great blessing, but always take care of the wife of your youth.

## The Father and the Family

by Gary Grut

The sun pierces my eyes as I drive over the hill. It's 6.30am and I'm stunned again by the beauty of a dawning new day. As I watch the darkness disappear, my prayers are directed to my family, "Lord as the head of my home I pray, wash my family afresh with the blood of Jesus, forgive us our sins and break any agreement we have made with the enemy, in Jesus' precious name". So I ended my morning prayer with my mind firmly embracing God's love for my family.

It's difficult to define family today; the definition of family seems to have changed over the years. The dictionary defines family as:

- A basic social unit consisting of parents and their children, considered as a group, whether dwelling together or not: *the traditional family*.
- A social unit consisting of one or more adults together with the children they care for: *a single-parent family*.
- All the people living together in one household.

However the Bible tells me in Genesis 2:24 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh". Here we see

husband and wife constituting the first family. How then do we see children fitting into the family picture?

My family shapes who I am today, the main influence being my parents. Now that I'm a father of four boys, I work hard at maintaining my relationship with my wife as the priority relationship. Our children are welcome members to our family, I love them, I care for them, however they do not rule the home. Fatherhood has posed some challenges over the years and has been a constant source of learning.

Let's take a moment to look closer at some things I have learned. Understand that even if you're a single parent these principles may still apply.

I have discovered that my role as a father is to plant SEEDs in the lives of my children. ➤



John

John Subritzky



# What's on the DVD



## FEATURED SPEAKER:

### Gary Grut - Being a Great Dad

Gary and Sarah have four sons. Gary has been involved with PK for many years as a speaker and as founder of the *Transition* youth Event. He has extensive experience as a pastor and he is now National Director of Baptist Youth Ministries. This message looks at the four responsibilities of a father and helps you identify the most important area for change. 36 min

## DRAMA: Life is What Happens -

What is this dad's response when his son quits his job? 4 min

## BONUS FEATURES:

- **My Story: Shayne Hill** - Stepping up into new responsibilities. 3 min
- **PK Music: I Surrender All Medley** 7 min
- **I Am Amanda Todd**: Video made by Amanda a few days before she committed suicide. See the sequence of events that left her feeling alone and targeted. 8 min
- **Allan Meyer: Breaking Strongholds** How do you break through from strongholds and addictions to freedom? 23 min
- **Aaron Ironside: Blended Families** Aaron shares honestly about the challenges of remarriage and step-parenting. 4 min
- **The Call 2013 Event Promo** 1 min 20

## HUMOUR CLIPS:

Fire hose rodeo; alcohol test prank; Darth Vader unicycles while playing bagpipes; super-fast mobility scooter 5 min

## BETTER WORK STORIES:

Zapata Flyboard - Cool new technology makes for a great job! 5 min

## DVD ROM

Access these using Windows Explorer on a (PC) or Command F (Mac)

## ARTICLES:

Including Gary Smalley - How to Open a Closed Heart, What's on Your Menu? Joy Frangipane Marion - Your Children Will Return; Kevin Forlong - Legacy of Fathers; Derek Prince - Success in Our Homes; Nikki Bray - Coming of Age Tribute; Ian Buckley - How to Be a Peacemaker, Making Wise Decisions

## RESOURCES:

Including Bill Subritzky booklets - Keys to Healing & Deliverance, Who I Am in Christ • *Break Free* 2012 Photos WLG • Men's Stories CHC • *The Call* 2013 Advance Brochure • Weekly Studies • PowerPoint & Study Questions – Gary Grut • Bible Reading Plans

## MP3s:

Derek Prince - You & Your Household 54 min • Steve Sonderman - Father-Daughter Relationship 61 min • **PKUSA Classic:** James Ryle - Raising a Standard for Children 25 min + 23 min • **PKNZ Classics:** Tavale Matai'a - Apprenticeship 40 min Gary Colville - Welded Together 35 min Bill Subritzky - Courage Under Fire 18 min

**AWESOME AUDIOS!**

> These SEEDs are:

- Strengthen your child's faith in Christ and establish them in God's love.
- Establish your child's identity.
- Encourage a godly vision for your children's future.
- Demonstrate your love as a father to them.

Let's take the time to focus in on two of these SEEDs:

### 1. Establish or re-establish your child's identity

Here are some practical things you can do:

- Tell your kids how much you love them.
- Help them figure out who they are (go to sports games, productions, and offer them opportunities to develop their skills).
- Listen to them.
- Tell them about God. "Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands." Psalm 78:7
- Be careful with the words you use (use words that build them up).
- Applaud and celebrate the things they do to help the family.
- Remind them of their worth (value) to God.

### 2. Demonstrate your love as a father to them

Some practical ways to show love to your children:

- Love their mum (e.g. take your wife out on a date night).
- Nothing builds a child's security more than when a father hugs his kids.
- Win at work and excel at home.
- Actions over words (don't make false promises).
- Be your kids' hero.
- Walk with them as they face life (through the hard times and the great times).
- Never be afraid to say you're sorry.
- Have fun with your children.



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# THE CALL

**Christmas special \$74** (Adult individual – until 31 Jan 2013)

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The Call QR Code

**PROMISE #4**

A Promise Keeper is committed to building strong marriages and families through love, protection, and biblical values.

**Next Issue: INTEGRITY**

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