

## **Chapter 1**

*A Godly Family of Growth: Cultivating Relational Wholism*

*&*

*Self-Conscious Transformation*

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## **A Family of Faith: An Incubator for Transformational Growth**

A Godly family, at its core, is an incubator for intentional spiritual growth and transformation. Being committed to a life of faith our family does not stay in our comfort zone, but we challenge ourselves to move out of our comfort, where we build character and faith in the training grounds. The family unit, much like a successful organization, is dependent on the degree to which it is founded on and constructed in accordance with revealed, transformational principles.

## **Reflecting God: The Highest Aim**

Scripture reveals a relational Father whose essence is community, love and growth. Therefore, the highest aim of the family must be to reflect our relational God, making the growth of each member's character and relationship with others a non-negotiable priority. A Godly family modelling Godly principles and operates as responsible stewards and trainers. Thus, defined not merely by outward devotion but by an internal commitment to wholistic change, relational discipleship, and the defence of owned truth, principles which foster self-conscious spiritual maturity across generations.

## **The Foundation: Internal Commitment to Wholistic Transformation**

The foundation of family growth must begin with an internal, all-encompassing commitment to wholistic transformation. The process of change does not start externally; rather, it moves from the inner reality of the spirit, heart, will, and mind, extending outwardly to actions and the shared family environment.

## **Eradicating Dualism: Applying a Whole-Life Worldview**

When discussing building principles, the mandate remains clear: a whole-life worldview is necessary, eradicating the dualism and spiritual compartmentalization that seeks to segment our faith from our finances, our professional life from our parenting. In my own experience, this principle was tested when I realized I was holding myself to one standard of ethical communication in the workplace—always calm and professional—but allowing frustration to dictate my tone at home. It became clear that the growth I was advocating for in my family could only take root when I committed to the same, singular ethical standard across all spheres of my life.

The family environment thrives when its members commit to this wholism, recognizing that all twelve of the fundamental building principles apply equally to the home as they do ministry or business.

## **Relational Building: The Methodology of Effective Training**

This internal commitment is replicated through a methodology of relational building and effective training that is life changing. Giving training is taking the person through the learning process to the point that they can competently execute those concepts by teaching and training others, demonstrating a spirit of reproduction. I learned that “God builds relationally and so must we,” noting that God builds with us, out of love, rather than using us as mere objects in a project.

This relational approach is the difference between simple conceptual teaching and profound life-changing training. Teaching is the communication of ideas, but training is the art of guiding a person through the learning process to the point that they can competently execute those concepts and, crucially, teach and train others.

## **The Impact of Modelling: Training as Unconscious Competency**

I found this distinction profoundly impactful when mentoring a younger sibling. While I could easily teach them about the importance of integrity, the actual training occurred when they witnessed me apologize for a mistake I

had made, demonstrating the necessary action under pressure. Giving training is a relational interaction that transfers one's lifestyle, leading them through the stages of learning until the new behaviour becomes an unconscious competency.

## **Preserving Growth: Owning and Defending Gained Truth**

Finally, for the growth to be preserved, the family must learn to own and defend the truth they have gained. Spiritual growth, while very beautiful, is constantly under attack, and the ability to persevere depends on what truth one "owns." Owning a truth means achieving a state of being "epistemologically self-conscious," knowing what you know, why you know it, and being able to communicate it effectively to others. This is the warrior activation necessary for defence. The defence of owned truth is crucial because the enemy's destructive attack is often aimed at the faith of those connected to us the very people in our family. While pursuing new truths is exciting, protecting the ground already gained carries the potential of going backwards and losing what was paid for.

## **The Act of Endurance: Fortifying Foundational Truths**

Learning to defend those foundational truths like the certainty of God's faithfulness even in financial pressure or relational conflict is the ultimate act of endurance that fortifies the family unit for the long term.

## **Conclusion: A Vessel for God's Dominion Mandate**

A Godly family of growth is a testament to the ongoing work of transformation. It is a place where every member is encouraged to move from glory to glory, from phase to phase, coming to completion without condemnation. This process is rooted in a commitment to wholistic principles over dualism, relational training over simple instruction, and the vigilant defence of truth over disillusionment. By committing to these principles, the family structure becomes a powerful vessel for God's dominion mandate.

## **Bibliography (Footnote)**

Dennis Peacocke, *GoBusiness200* | *Lesson 14, Transformation Begins with You.*

Dennis Peacocke, *GoBusiness200* | *Lesson 4, Building Organizations on God's Word and God's Pattern.*

Dennis Peacocke, *GoBusiness200* | *Lesson 22, Understanding the Distinctions Between Teaching and Training, Part I.*

Dennis Peacocke, *GoBusiness200* | *Lesson 25, The Battle to Preserve Your Spiritual Growth.*