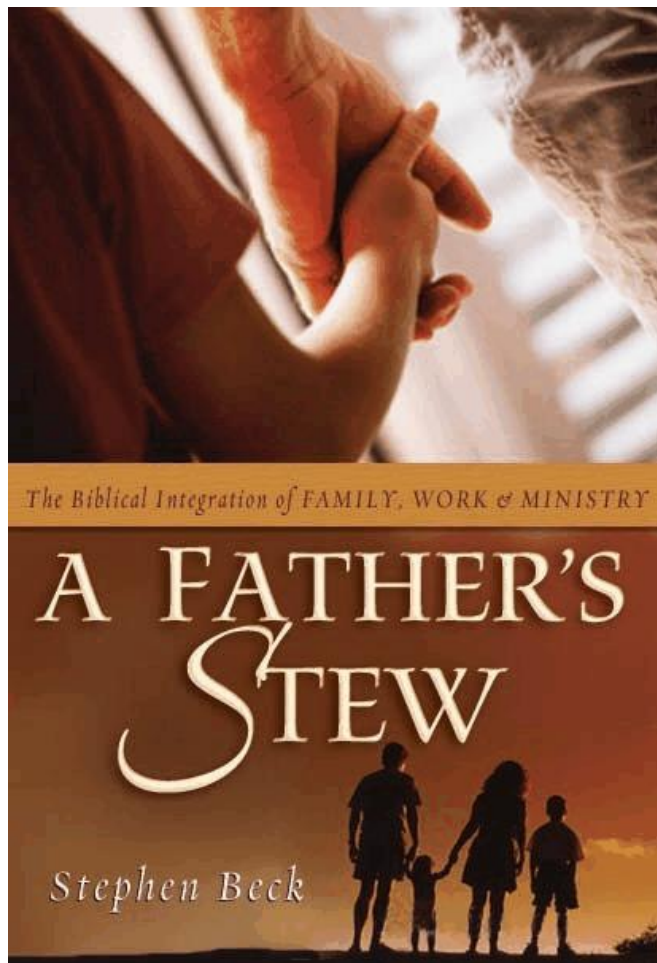


A FATHER'S STEW



Stephen Beck

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**The Biblical Integration of
FAMILY, WORK & MINISTRY**

by Stephen Beck

Ranger
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Stephen G. Beck, *A Father's Stew: The Biblical Integration of Family, Work & Ministry*

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Dedication

For my father, James Doughty Beck III - the consummate gentleman, who in the last hours of wakefulness, was reconciled to the One to Whom we must all give an account.

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Most of all, I am grateful to my wife, Kerry, for being my partner in the molding of those we will leave behind.

Preface

The Bible states that without a vision, the people perish. I have a dream, a vision if you will. In my dream, I wake up excited to start another day at work. Surely, you must be dreaming you say! No, I am excited because I know that this work is the very work that God has called me to do.

My wife is my right hand in this work and I know that God could not have given me anyone better suited to this task. My children are involved in my work and it proves to be a tremendous training ground for them. For my daughters, as they submit to me and follow my leadership, I am able to train them to be godly wives and mothers someday. For my son, I am able to teach him to obey God and one day, lead a family of his own. Younger men are also involved in my work and working side by side gives me the opportunity to teach them to apply God's Word with wisdom and understanding in their daily affairs. My wife ministers to younger women as well, teaching them to honor their husbands and love their children in a godly manner.

My children see these young men and women grow and are encouraged to one day

disciple younger believers on their own. The younger men and women see my children and realize that the Bible is true and a godly family can be achieved. My work blesses my family and my ministry. My family helps me in my work and provides concrete examples for my ministry. My ministry provides helpers for my work and motivation for my family. For you see, work, family and ministry are all ingredients to a stew. A stew that is described in Phil 4:18 as a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

Introduction

At first glance, this book may seem like a random odyssey winding its way through the complicated subjects of family, ministry and work. Is this guy a nut tackling three subjects that could each make for a very long book? How can he possibly do justice to the three areas that seem to touch every waking moment of our lives and still end up with a relatively short book? Simple. The basic issue in all three of these areas is **obedience to the Word of God**.

Actually, balancing and integrating our family, ministry and work is a biblical concept. Look at the model woman of Proverbs 31. She provides food and clothing for her family. She ministers to the poor. She even considers a field and plants a vineyard with the profits from a home-based business. Yet, she does all this in a way that pleases God. All of her endeavors work in harmony and do not rob from one another. She has identified God's priorities and oriented her life to line up with those priorities. Unfortunately, some have pointed to this woman as a model for Christian feminism. Yet, her family remains the object of all her hard work. This should dispel the notion that God

rewards women who put their careers over their home life.

Consider Job. Here was a man who was also able to integrate his family, ministry and work. The Bible describes him as blameless and upright. His children were a blessing to him, his wife and one another. His adult children ate meals together and had fellowship in one another's houses. Evidence of his high priority on family is demonstrated by the fact that he prayed for his adult children and regularly made sacrifices for them lest they had erred against God (Job 1:4-5). He ministered to the poor and the fatherless. He provided for the widows and stood against evil (Job 29:12-17). Job's uprightness also flowed into his business dealings. He ran a very large ranch and provided for his many servants. He was considered a very influential man (Job 1:3), running his business with integrity (Job 31:5-6) and treating his servants with respect (Job 31:13-15). In short, Job was a man who, through obedience, was able to glorify God by successfully integrating family, ministry and work without causing these areas to compete against and destroy one another.

But excelling in our families, ministries and work is no easy task. Many a man has disqualified himself for ministry by having ungodly children (1 Timothy 3:4-5). Even more men have sacrificed their children in the pursuit of their careers. Some have even sacrificed their families in pursuit of ministry. What is the path of righteousness in these three areas? How can we please God in the areas of family, ministry and work? How can we balance these three areas so that our God and King is glorified? I would submit that the common thread woven throughout the tremendous problems we see today in our families, ministries and work is found in the twelfth chapter of Romans:

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2)

Paul is commanding us **not** to be shaped by the prevailing culture. Instead, we are to be transformed by a different culture - a Christian culture. And what is this Christian culture based on? The Word of God.

Notice that obedience to this verse is a two-fold process. We are to reject the ungodly culture around us **while at the same time** allowing God to transform our lives by embracing the godly culture found in His Word. Without doing **both at the same time**, we can fall into one of two traps.

The Trap of Asceticism

If we only reject the current culture and are not transformed by the Word of God, we slip into asceticism; trying to achieve righteousness by “touch not, taste not, handle not”.

Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations--"Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle," which all concern things which perish with the using-- according to the commandments and doctrines of men? **These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom** in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, **but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.** (Col 2:20-23)

Rejecting the current culture without the renewal of our minds will result in the

appearance of righteousness, but the end result will be unsuccessful. Why? Because “in you (that is, in your flesh), dwells no good thing” (Romans 7:18) and our hearts are “deceitful above all things and desperately wicked (Jeremiah 17:9).”

This idea of the “appearance of righteousness” can run in two directions. The unbeliever can deceive himself by doing “good works” in order to achieve righteousness before God. He may go to church, give to charities, love his family or even be a leader in the community, but all of these activities do not address the fundamental problem between God and man. Paul made this point to the Romans:

For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, **but not before God**. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him **who justifies the ungodly**, his faith is accounted for righteousness, just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: (Romans 4:2-6)

If you work for an employer, he owes you a wage at the end of the day. But what if you owed that employer a debt so great that it could never be repaid - even if you worked every day for the rest of your life? It would be silly to dem and right standing (or balanced books) with your employer for a few days work when you owed so great a debt! Similarly, it is silly for us to dem and right standing before a holy God on account of a few “good” things we have done, when our sin has caused a debt too great to repay. Read the above verse again. God extends forgiveness of this debt to those who first realize they are ungodly, and then believe in “Him who justifies the ungodly”. Jesus Christ died on the

cross to pay the debt for which we were rightfully liable (Romans 5:8). We can never repay that debt through our “good” deeds and in fact, it is strictly prohibited. For God imputes righteousness apart from works. This idea is echoed in Ephesians.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that **not of yourselves**; it is the gift of God, **not of works**, lest anyone should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Jesus saved His harshest words for those who were trying to earn their own righteousness before God by rejecting the current culture. The Pharisees had the rejection of their surrounding culture down to a science, but without saving faith in the only begotten Son of God, it proved to be worthless. He called them “white-washed sepulchers” who were clean on the outside, but were full of rot and decay on the inside.

But this “appearance of righteousness” can run in another direction as well. **Believers** can reject the things in our culture that the Bible requires them to. However, without the transformation of our minds by the Word of God, we can achieve the “appearance” of righteousness without the **power**. One of the greatest dangers of our modern evangelical church is the “hired gun” syndrome. We hire pastors, along with scads of assistant pastors, and expect them to fight the battle for us. We have become a generation of “evan-jelly fish” as Douglas Wilson aptly puts it. Christians without a theological backbone. The Word of God gives us the backbone necessary to fight the prevailing culture. Rejection of the current culture without the transforming power of the Word of God in our lives leaves only the shadow of true spirituality.

The Trap of Licentiousness

Although we are to avoid the first trap of rejecting our current culture without the attending transformation, most modern evangelical Christians fall into a second trap. We try to be transformed by the Word of God without rejecting anything our society places in front of us. We want all of what God has for us.. and everything the world has as well. We attend church, listen to Christian tapes, listen to Christian music, attend Christian conferences, throw ourselves in Bible studies and yet our families, ministries and work look surprisingly similar to that of the world. We are like the women in Second Timothy who are “always learning, but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.” In fact, Paul said these women were loaded down with sins and led away by their lusts. Does this sound familiar? How can we expect transformation when we are also are loaded down with sins and led away by our lusts?

One of the most common complaints among Christian men today is that of frustration. We truly want to please God in our family, ministry and work, but our lives seem to fall so short. What little Christian fruit we bear is choked out by the world's thorns and thistles. We are not to be conformed to this world. In addition to the transforming of our hearts and minds by God, we must also reject society's constant pressure to swallow ideas that run contrary to the Word of God. We must reject the notion that:

- Y There are many paths to righteousness before God apart from His Son.
- Y We are free to make decisions apart from Scripture.

- ÿ There are areas in our lives that Scripture has not addressed.
- ÿ God does not care what we do behind closed doors.
- ÿ Women must enter the work force in order to be “truly” fulfilled.
- ÿ Our children must be educated by so-called “experts” -that when God gave us children, He did not give us all of the resources necessary to fully educate them .
- ÿ We can place our children in concentration camps euphem istically called child-care centers while we pursue our careers, hobbies and bank accounts.
- ÿ We can tolerate sexual sin in our churches and not be judged by God.
- ÿ We can live as if God’s number one priority is our own happiness.

Basically, we are to reject the notion that we, as Christians, can have it all! Our job, as believers, is to identify and reject the sinful practices and ideas of this current culture **while at the same time**, being transformed by a different culture. We are to be transformed by the Christian culture found in the Word of God (For a great elaboration on this Christian culture, read [The Paideia of God](#), by Douglas Wilson). With this charge in mind, let us look at the first step toward successfully integrating our family, work and ministry.

Section One

First Things First

Chapter 1:

The Word of God

The Sufficiency of Scripture

Preparing a dish from scratch is no easy task, even with a recipe. Being a genuine cooking novice myself, I can readily attest to this. I spend so much time trying to figure out terms such as “folding,” “browning,” and “braising,” that I can never get to the actual cooking part! In godly living, as well as cooking, there are some basic principles and premises we must first understand before we can even begin. The first and foremost premise is the **sufficiency of Scripture**. Second Timothy 3:16 and 17 states:

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Scripture thoroughly equips us to live a godly life. There is nothing else we need to be complete. Do you believe that? Do you believe that you could read only one book

all your life and still be a complete (mature) man or woman of God? All decisions in our lives are addressed either directly or indirectly by God's Word. I say directly or indirectly because the Bible teaches us according to precepts and principles. Precepts are expressed commands given from Scripture and principles are conclusions drawn from those precepts. For example, the Bible commands us to love our wives as Christ loved the church. The commandment is simple enough, but the way in which we do this takes some studying. How did Christ love the church? He taught her the Word. He praised her when she did well and rebuked her when she needed it (Revelation 2:1-6). He sacrificed everything to achieve her best interest. Although the **precepts** of God seem to be limited to specific behaviors and situations, the **principles** derived from those precepts transcend all situations and cultures.

A warning is warranted, however. Although we are to obey the Word fully and in its entirety, we are not to add to the Word of God. The Bible prohibits drunkenness in Ephesians 5:18, but it does not prohibit the drinking of alcohol. Paul did not exhort Timothy to drink a little grape juice for his stomach ailment (1 Timothy 5:23) and Jesus most certainly did not change the water into some unfermented fruit drink at the wedding in Cana. However we may feel about the consumption of alcohol, we are not allowed to place more restrictions than the Word of God does. Spurgeon once said in regards to tobacco smoking that he found it hard enough to obey the Ten Commandments and had no intention of adding an eleventh!

It is amazing how we want to ignore **obvious** commands found in Scripture, while at the same time, try to add commands where God has not. Why do we do this? Because

w e want to be the final arbiter over God's W ord. W e want to be like the M ost H igh. There is no reward for being "holier" than God in a certain area. In fact, instead of a reward, you may receive a rebuke. M y point is **not** to encourage believers to use their freedom in Christ towards licentiousness. M y point is to demonstrate that in God's economy, there is for no room for intellectually lazy Christians. W e are to show ourselves approved, rightly dividing the W ord of T ruth (2 T im othy 2:15). The One to W hom we will all give an account, has comm anded us to become mature in our understanding of H is W ord (1 Corin thians 14:20).

So we see that Scripture is sufficient to rule **all** areas of our lives. Scripture is the ultimate authority to which we must look. If we want to know what our families should look like, we should go to the Scriptures. If we want to know how our children should be educated, we should go to the Scriptures. If we want to know what kind of ministry we should be involved in, we should go to the Scriptures. If we want to know what career to pursue we should, you guessed it, go to the Scriptures. One of the reasons we fail so miserably at balancing family, ministry and work is that we do not know what God's W ord says about these areas.

Our Culture Ignores Scripture

Our current culture and even the modern evangelical church are very reminiscent of the days of Josiah (2 Chronicles 34:14-21). God's W ord had been lost for many years and was suddenly found when repairs were being made to the temple. W hen the priest

read God's Word to Josiah, he was cut to the quick and realized that he had not "kept the Word of the Lord, to do according to all that is written in this book." Can you imagine? God's people without God's Word for generations! How would they know what to do? How would they know if they were pleasing God? The fact is, they did not. Without the Word of God as the standard of measurement for all things, we inevitably fail to please God - no matter how hard we try or how sincere our hearts. Although Josiah had been a good king up to this point, he realized that God must be served according to His prescribed manner. When confronted with the truth, he repented and did it God's way. We, on the other hand, have even less excuse because we have God's Word at our fingertips and yet we fail to apply His standard to every area of our lives. We fail to see the sufficiency of Scripture for every decision we make.

Do you truly believe that the Bible holds all the information necessary to make you a complete person? Are you willing to do anything it takes to obey God's Word? Are you willing to be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2)? Then it is time to take the "sneaker" test!

I heard of the sneaker test on a tape from Douglas Phillips. If a man came to you and said, "Sir, I see that you are wearing sneakers. Now you know that sneakers are an abomination to the Lord and I am rebuking you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to take off those sneakers and repent right away!" Well, we could give one of several answers. We could tell the man he is crazy. We could ignore him. Or we could say something like this. "Sir, I have never heard that the Lord abhors sneakers, but if you can

demonstrate to me biblically that this is true... in the trash they will go, you will never find me or my family wearing sneakers again!

Do you have that attitude toward the Word of God? Could there be things in the Scriptures that God has not revealed to you yet? When He does reveal them to you, will you be willing to obey them? Mark Twain once said, "It's not the parts of the Bible that I don't understand that bother me, it is the parts that I do!"

No Substitutions, Please

Scripture is the final authority on what God wants us to do and the way He wants us to do it. This was brought home to me in a big way when my college roommates decided to make lasagna. After mixing the ground meat and ricotta cheese, they realized they were missing the lasagna noodles (For the culinary challenged - those long flat ones you put on the top and bottom). Of course being men, they knew how to improvise. When they set the "lasagna" on the table, I stared in disbelief and asked what in the world they had done. They stated with pride that since they were missing the lasagna noodles, they had substituted with the next best thing they could find in the freezer - a bag of frozen tater-tots! Although their hearts were in the right place, and they had worked very hard, they succeeded in making "lasagna" that even the dog would not eat!

We are like those college roommates when we try to substitute our ideas for those found in His Word. Unless we use God-ordained ingredients to make our "stew," we will inevitably make something that is not pleasing to God. It is not enough to try our best to

please God in our families, work and ministry. **God does not bless us for trying hard.** If He blessed for sincerity and hard work, the cults who deny the deity of Christ would win hands down! God only blesses those decisions that are in accordance with Scripture. **Let me say that again, God only blesses decisions that are biblical!** And what constitutes a biblical decision is not open to private interpretation. A decision is either based on the expressed Word of God (or a principle derived from the expressed Word of God) or it is not. This is why we are required to know the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27).

No Private Interpretations

God's Word is not open to private interpretation (2 Peter 1:20-21). One of the greatest dangers in our modern "Christian" culture is the focus on ourselves.

"What does this passage mean to me personally?"

"God has different priorities for me than He does for you."

"My God is a God of love and would never send anyone to Hell."

"I don't believe in the doctrine of election. It doesn't seem fair to me."

"God did not mean a literal "day" when He said He created the world in six days (Even

though He said morning and evening after each day and even stated which number of day it was!). Besides, I would feel stupid believing such a simple explanation.”

The problem with looking through this myopic lens is that God’s Word becomes very subjective. If I interpret the Bible this way and you interpret the Bible another way, then which interpretation is correct? Can we really know what the Bible is saying if there are so many different ways of interpreting it? Is there really such a thing as absolute truth? When we view Scripture as applying to each of us differently, we are thinking as a humanist. We are placing ourselves as the final arbiter over God’s Word. I determine what God means in this passage for me, and you determine what this passage means for you. God knew exactly what He meant when He wrote the Bible and it is our responsibility, through the Holy Spirit, to understand what He meant and to conform our lives to His Word.

When we try to change the plain meaning of the Scriptures to fit our current culture, we are assuming the role of God. Allowing women to teach men in the church is a good example of this. 1 Timothy 2:11-15 clearly teaches against this and yet many of our modern evangelical churches have women teaching men in adult Sunday schools. The Bible does not allow a woman to teach a man even if she has a male teaching partner. It makes no difference if those being taught are couples, either. Women are not to be in authority over men in the church, period. God’s Word is not open to our higher criticism. We are not allowed to say, “Well I know that God’s Word says this, but what He **really** meant was..” Instead of asking what God’s Word means in this day and time, ask what

has God's Word meant throughout the ages and determine to understand it and then obey it! Your truth claim should always go off when you read something that claims to be a "new" principle or "secret to living the Christian life."

No Selective Obedience

So far we have seen that Scripture is sufficient for all our decisions, we can not substitute man's wisdom for God's Word and the Bible is not open to private interpretation. There is one more concept we must acknowledge to allow the Bible to have its full impact in our lives. In 1 Samuel 15:3, Saul was instructed by God to attack the Amalekites and to not spare any man, woman, child or animal. God was executing His divine judgment on them, which He had a perfect right to do (1 Samuel 15:2). Saul attacked the Amalekites, but he spared the king and the best of the animals. When confronted by Samuel, Saul claimed that the animals had been spared to sacrifice to God. Samuel wasn't fooled for a moment.

Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? **Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice**, and to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he also has rejected you from being king." (1 Samuel 15:22-23)

God's Word must be obeyed God's way. No amount of church attendance, giving, Bible study, evangelism, prayer or good works can make up for disobedience to

the Word of God. Notice how subtle Saul's argument was. He only spared King Agag because he wanted to show mercy. God wants us to show mercy, right? He only spared the animals so he could sacrifice them to God. God commands sacrifices, does He not?

Earlier, Saul offered a burnt offering to the Lord (which only the priests were allowed to do) and explained his disobedience by claiming that he wanted God's blessing on the coming battle. God wants to bless us, correct? God's commands must be obeyed God's way. Disobedience is rebellion and rebellion is the same as the sin of witchcraft (1 Samuel 15:22-23). When we disobey the Word of God, we are rejecting it and God will reject us from serving Him. James put it another way.

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. (James 1:5-8)

What a great promise! If we want to know God's thoughts, if we want wisdom from the Creator of the universe, if we want to choose between better and best - God will give us the answer! But this promise comes with a condition. We must be willing to obey whatever He commands us. We do not have the right to pick and choose His commandments like items on a salad bar.

"I like this command, but that one seems too old fashioned."

“I know adultery is a sin, but monogamous homosexuality is surely not.”

“I believe the Bible, but I would rather not spank my child.”

“I like what Jesus teaches, but Paul is too harsh, especially in regards to women.”

“I know this believer is having an affair, but how can we minister to him if we break fellowship with him?”

We have no right to all of the information at hand before we decide to obey. Eve thought she needed just a little more information before she obeyed. She got her wish - the knowledge of good and evil! When faced with a command or principle found in Scripture, we do not have the right to debate whether our option or God's option is better. We are to ask in faith. The faith that, whatever a loving God would instruct us to do, will be for our ultimate good (Romans 8:28).

We are not to doubt God's goodness. We are not to weigh our options. If we come to God with this attitude, James states we should expect **nothing** in return. How many times have your children asked your advice, only to ignore it when the time came for action? About the third or fourth time you quit giving advice and let them learn for themselves - the hard way! Or at least I hope you would. But alas, another of our modern evangelical failings is that of disciplining our children **according to the Bible**. If you hate your children then do not discipline them (Proverbs 13:24). And if you really hate your

children, never spank them (Proverbs 23:13-14). Sons, whose mothers bail them out of trouble over and over, will marry wives who will be forced to do the same thing - or at least until the divorce papers are signed. Remember, God's rules must be obeyed God's way!

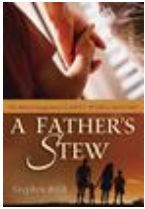
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Book Titles

A Father's Stew : The Biblical Integration of Family, Work and Ministry

By Stephen Beck 144 pages

[Our Best Seller!](#)



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How can we please our God and King in the three areas that affect every waking hour of our lives? Read on to discover God's vision for fathers as we are challenged from the Scriptures to balance the areas of family, work and ministry and to blend these three ingredients to form a godly stew - a sweet smelling aroma to God.

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by Stephen Beck 75 pages

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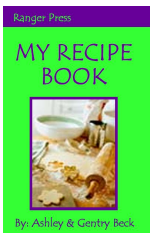
Foundations: A Bible Study For The New Believer, by Stephen Beck

Teacher's Manual 59 pages

Student's Manual 21 pages

A 10-week bible study for those who are new believers or those who, although they may have been a Christian for a long time, have not had the opportunity to learn the foundational truths of the Christian life. It can also be used by the mature believer to "brush up" on the fundamentals as well as a tool for that mature believer to bring younger believers to maturity. It includes a quick overview of the old and new testament, as well as studies on salvation, the Word of God, God's character, our victorious Christian life and reproducing ourselves in others.

My Recipe Book, by Ashley & Gentry Beck \$7.50



Do you ever make a recipe and then forget where it came from? This recipe book has a laminated cover (in case of spills) and pages set up in several categories for your daughter to write down her favorite recipes as you teach her to cook. Ashley & Gentry share some of their favorite recipes, also.

ABC Jungle Book, by Hunter Beck 15 pages

Learn all about the jungle as you travel through the ABC's. Hunter includes his favorite animals, plants and places from the jungle.

CD and Audio Cassette Titles

A Father's Stew: The Biblical Integration of Family, Work and Ministry

(The entire book read by the author!) by Stephen Beck

In an age where fathers are separated from their families for most of the day, how can we fulfill the biblical mandate to train our children when "you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down,

and when you rise up?" (Deuteronomy 6) Given our current culture, is it possible to integrate family, work and ministry in a biblical manner? How can we please our God and King in the three areas that affect every waking hour of our lives? Read on to discover God's vision for fathers as we are challenged from the Scriptures to balance the areas of family, work and ministry and to blend these three ingredients to form a godly stew - a sweet smelling aroma to God.

A Father's Stew Set (4 talks based on the book), by Stephen Beck

Tape 1: **The First Ingredient: Family**

Tape 2: **The Second Ingredient: Work**

Tape 3: **The Third Ingredient: Ministry**

Tape 4: **Patriarchal Examples?!**

Teaching Your Children How To Start Their Own Business, by Stephen Beck

One of the main principles in homeschooling is multi-generational thinking. Even though you may not have your own business, you can teach your children to one day have theirs. If they choose to work for someone else, entrepreneurial skills can only help them in that endeavor. Drawing from his 17 years of self-employment, Stephen Beck will share his hard-won knowledge on how to start and maintain a family-run business. He will discuss the pros and cons of having your own business, the economics and the headaches. Above all, he will encourage you to seek to please our God in whatever situation He has called you and your children.

Teaching Your Children About Debt and Finances, by Stephen Beck

The Bible refers to the subject of money more than any other topic. Where will your children learn these important lessons about finances? Are you teaching them about finances and debt before they find themselves neck-deep in student loans, a mortgage and a \$15,000 credit card debt? Use this quick study to effectively teach your children the biblical view of finances and debt.

Training Your Children To Rule and Reign For Jesus Christ, by Stephen Beck

Psalm 112 describes a man whose descendants will be mighty on the earth. How do we teach our children to one day, rule and reign for their God and King, Jesus Christ? How do we train them to boldly impact the society around them instead of the other way around? Pointed, yet humorous, Stephen Beck discusses issues such as Dad's leadership, family devotions, the importance of homeschooling, finances and avoiding debt. Learn the essentials your children must know and the entanglements they must avoid to carry out their God-given commission - the discipleship of all the nations!

Making Biblical Decisions, by Stephen Beck

You can tell the maturity of a believer by the decisions he makes. Why do Christians make such poor decisions? Can we ensure that our decisions are pleasing to God and not merely based on our feelings, circumstances or other's opinions? How can we know God's will for our lives? Come hear a challenging message on how we should make everyday decisions - ones we are sure will please our Lord and Master!

Spending Time with God: A Lesson From Martha and Mary, by Stephen Beck

What is the "good part" that can not be taken away? How can we pass on to our children that which we do not possess? See how the sisters stumble at times, but more importantly, how they grow with each encounter with Christ! Will we continue to be 90 lb weaklings? Or will we take the Charles Atlas course and kick some sand in the face of a bullying culture!

Approaches to Homeschooling, by Kerry Beck

Are you stuck in a rut when it comes to choosing curriculum? Do you buy the same "stuff" each year just because you used it last year? Realize that no single approach to home schooling works for all ages and all subjects. Come hear Kerry Beck use Biblical principles for selecting the right approach for your child. We will discuss how Charlotte Mason, Classical, Unit Studies and the Principle Approach have advantages in different subjects at different stages of your child's development.

Teaching the Reluctant Writer, by Kerry Beck

Many children dislike writing. Learn how to teach a specific, successful method of separating the complex process of writing into the smallest possible steps. Even the most reluctant writer will be able to produce short, but complete compositions. Remove the problem of what to write and you will free your child to learn how to write.

The Consummate Christian Man, by Stephen Beck

Here are three talks Steve gave at a men's charge (not retreat). Consider it a "BEST OF ..." with topics including:

- ÿ *The vision for ruling and reigning for Jesus Christ*
- ÿ *The Psalm 112 man*
- ÿ *Family, Work and Ministry*
- ÿ *Debt*
- ÿ *Using small businesses to build a Christian culture*

Un-revisionist History, by Stephen Beck

Can you really believe what the history books tell you about the Civil War? How does the truth still affect us today. Come hear how the war to end slavery wound up costing all Americans, black and white, their freedom. We all want to rule and reign for Christ, but after 140 years of slavery, will we know how to lead when we win the war for our culture?

How Were They Saved In The Old Testament?, by Stephen Beck

How were the Old Testament saints saved? Although the question was obviously important to them, it is equally imperative for us. Are there really two ways for salvation...one for the Old Testament and one for the New Testament? Is our Bible really two distinct books with a God of judgment in the Old and a God of love in the New? Hear how the whole Bible flows together and our God has always saved by one way

only...faith in His Son Jesus Christ!

Seeing Ourselves As The People of God, by Stephen Beck

Do you view yourself as an individual worshipping a common God with other believers? Or do you see yourself as part of the special people of God, called from eternity past for such a time as this? Are we really organically connected so that each member of the body has a direct impact on the spiritual condition of the other? Is there anything more important than "just me and Jesus?" Come hear Stephen Beck encourage us to begin identifying ourselves as part of His holy bride. Only then, will we begin to see God work in a powerful way through His chosen vessel - the bride of Christ!

Accelerated Distance Learning, by Kerry Beck

Discover How To:

- *Receive college credit for life experiences*
- *Earn college credit quickly and easily through credit by examination*
- *Speed up the learning process while improving comprehension*
- *Cut study time by at least 50%*
- *Make a wise decision in choosing the right college and distance-learning program.*
- *Prepare an independent study plan that will guarantee distance-learning success*