

**Family 1<sup>st</sup>**



*Sunday Morning Series*

# Kindling Genuine Appreciation

## GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sermon for February 15, 2015 by Ray Reynolds

Introduction: We are living in an age when the Christian home is under attack. We are bombarded from every side and it is taking its toll on faithful Christians. We need to put the family first! In this specific lesson we will focus on kindling genuine appreciation within the family. We just passed another holiday yesterday (Valentine's Day). Every day should be known for showing affection to the ones we love! In our homes, we cannot distance ourselves from each other. We desperately need each other in order to survive. Every person in the family needs to know that they are loved and appreciated. Let's study together...

Discussion:

### *I. Speak Words of Genuine Appreciation*

- A. Say "I Love You" (John 3:16, John 13:34-35, Ephesians 5:21-33)
- B. Say "I Am Here For You" (Galatians 6:1-2, Ephesians 4:12, Colossians 3:16-17)
- C. Say "I Am Proud of You" (Romans 13:8-10, Matthew 25:29, Proverbs 22:6)

### *II. Write Words of Genuine Appreciation*

- A. Write words that edify others (I Corinthians 10:23, Philippians 4:4-9, I Thessalonians 5:11).
- B. Write words that inspire others (Acts 15:31, Ephesians 4:12, 16).
- C. Write words that humor others (Proverbs 17:22, Ecclesiastes 3:4, Luke 6:21).

### *III. Live Words of Genuine Appreciation*

- A. Have a life statement (Matthew 16:24, Romans 12:1-2, II Corinthians 5:17)
- B. Live life with purpose (Philippians 1:21, II Timothy 4:6-8, James 1:2-4)
- C. Make positive memories (Matthew 6:33, Philippians 1:3-5, Hebrews 13:5)

Conclusion: There are fires burning in homes all across the nation. Fires of hate, negativity, misplaced priorities, divorce, neglect, abuse, etc. Some are self-inflicted and painful. Others have overtaken us unaware. It's time that we started kindling a spiritual fire for God. Draw the fire line! If you are not living as a faithful and godly family... PLEASE repent and set your house in order. Do you need prayers for any other thing going on in your life? The family of God is here to pray for you!