

**Family Integrated Ministry Model**  
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**Revised for Sovereign Grace Bible Church**

**Ministry to Families (D.E.F.E.N.D.)**

Families are falling apart all around us. The divorce rate is at an all time high; the birth rate has plummeted to an all time low. Children lack discipline and self control, and are falling away from the faith at rates of up to 88 percent (2002 Southern Baptist Convention Council on the Family)! At Sovereign Grace Bible Church, we believe the answer is simple. We must DEFEND the family.

**Disciple**

The current state of the family has left most people with poor models or no models at all when it comes to biblical family. Consequently, many people simply don't know what biblical family looks like. We are committed to the discipleship of individuals and families with a view toward establishing sound biblical principles upon which the home is built (Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 4:11-16; Colossians 2:6)

**Equip**

We are committed to equipping and expecting men to step into their God-given role as priest, prophet and provider in the home, and in turn, to lead their wives and teach their children in the ways of righteousness (Titus 2)

**Facilitate**

Family takes time. Therefore, at Sovereign Grace Bible Church, we are committed to "creating space" for families to spend time together (Ephesians 5:16). We do not offer a host of programs that run families ragged. We would much rather encourage you to spend more time around your family table enjoying one another's company, or engaging in Christian hospitality toward your neighbors.

**Encourage**

We believe the church is a "family of families". Our desire is to encourage families to be all God wants them to be, since the strength of the church is dependent upon the strength of the individual families (Deuteronomy 6:7; Ephesians 6:1-4).

**Nurture**

Family life is filled with both mountaintops and valleys. We are committed to rejoicing with families when they experience the highs, and nurturing them during the lows (Romans 12:15; 1 Corinthians 12:26; Hebrews 13:3)

**Duplicate**

Sovereign Grace Bible Church has been blessed with many families that exemplify the best the biblical model has to offer. These families aren't perfect, but they are far enough down the road to help others just starting out (Titus 2)