



DATE January 20, 2019
SPEAKER David Smith
TITLE A Consistent Example
SERIES When we envision a dream home, we think of a luxurious house featuring all the latest trends. But a house doesn't make a home. What if the ideal home isn't one with rich with features, but rich in godliness? How do we make our godly dream homes a reality?

Consistency is not something we see in the ever-changing trends, tweets, and news headlines; yet, the *Bible* tells us that consistency is exactly what we need as one of the foundational stones to help create our dream home.

1. Why is it important to “start children off in the way that they should go” (Proverbs 22:6)? How is this a probability, but not necessarily a promise?
2. In order to cultivate a Godly home, we are instructed to be a consistent example. Think about your own upbringing or examples of another’s childhood. What aspects of consistency do you incorporate in your own spiritual life/home? Are there any examples that you make a point to NOT emulate?
3. Of the following seven dysfunctions of a home, which do you find is most prominent in our nation’s families? Are they all equally damaging? Are any seemingly easier to address than others?
Conflict/anger Busy-ness Double standards
Emotional discipline Reject after feeling rejected Lack of encouragement
Limited decision-making (helicopter parent)
4. How does understanding that we only have one enemy change our perspective on the true source of our inconsistency? How would we treat our perceived enemies differently?
5. Consistency also requires growing in faith, love, actions, and attitudes. The steps to growing are:
Identifying aspects of your behavior that require change (Psalm 139:23-24)
Facing the excuses that justify your lack of change (Matthew 17:20)
Taking your thoughts captive (1 Corinthians 11:1)
Being persistent (Galatians 6:9)
Which of these seems most challenging to implement? How can you encourage others who are struggling in these areas?
6. Allowing the peace of God to rule our homes leads to consistency, but what exactly does it mean that peace is NOT the absence of conflict? What do the following verses say about handling conflict with peace as a baseline: Proverbs 15:1; Ephesians 4:31-32; Matthew 18:15; Colossians 3:13?

The sermon’s closing prayer can help us take one step closer to being a consistent example: “God, I trust you with _____, and I allow your peace to rule in my home. Amen.”