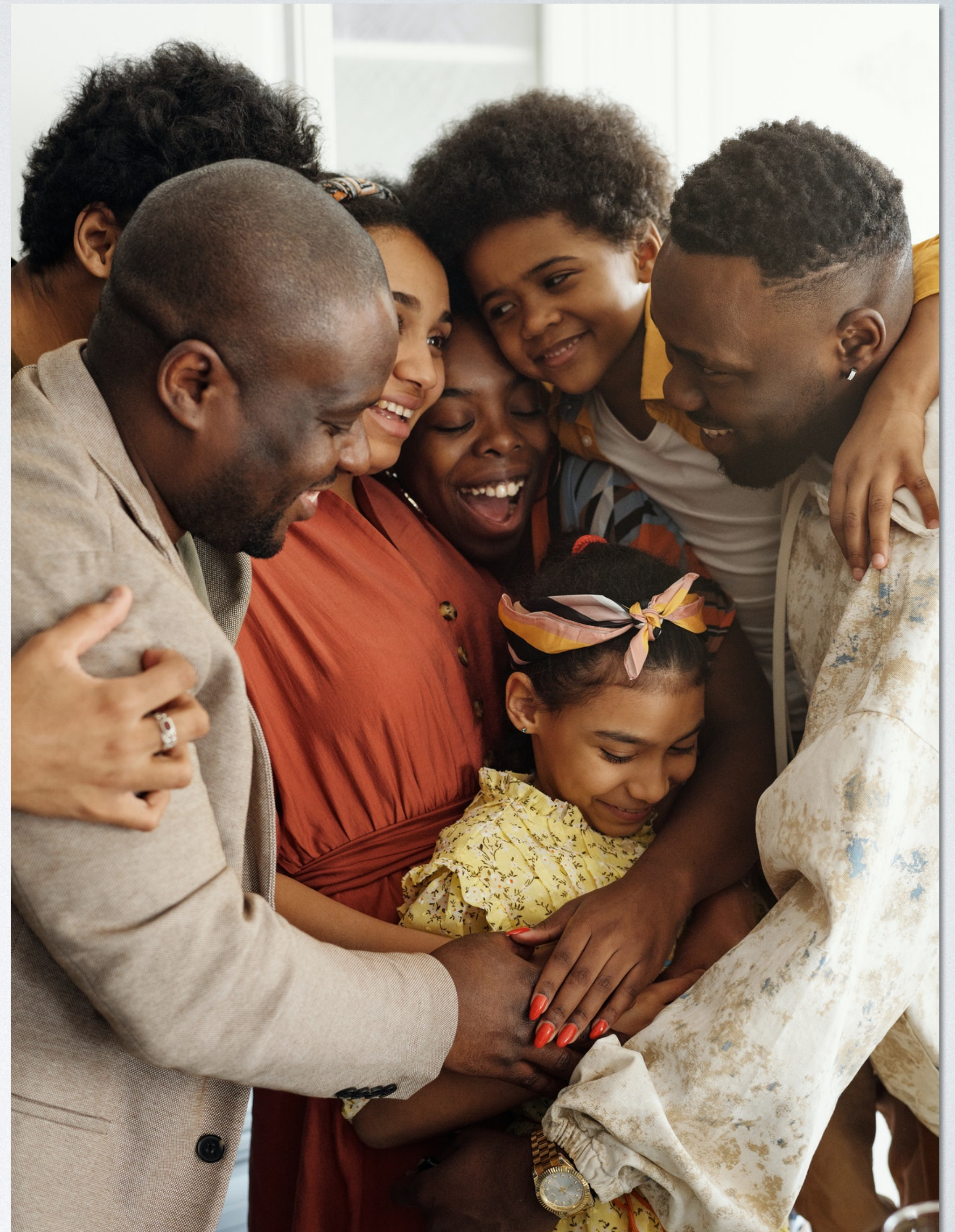


FAMILY LIFE



My home is the home of peace. My home is the home of joy and delight. My home is the home of laughter and exultation.

Whosoever enters through the portals of this home, must go out with gladsome heart. This is the home of light; whosoever enters here must become illumined. This is the home of knowledge: the one who enters it must receive knowledge. This is the home of love: those who come in must learn the lessons of love; thus may they know how to love each other. — *Abdu'l-Bahá*





If we truly want peace in the world, let us begin by loving one another in our own families. If we want to spread joy, we need for every family to have joy.—*Mother Teresa*

What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.— *Mother Teresa*

Compare the nations of the world to the members of a family. A family is a nation in miniature. Simply enlarge the circle of the household, and you have the nation. Enlarge the circle of nations, and you have all humanity. The conditions surrounding the family surround the nation. The happenings in the family are the happenings in the life of the nation. Would it add to the progress and advancement of a family if dissensions should arise among its members, all fighting, pillaging each other, jealous and revengeful of injury, seeking selfish advantage? Nay, this would be the cause of the effacement of progress and advancement. So it is in the great family of nations, for nations are but an aggregate of families. Therefore, as strife and dissension destroy a family and prevent its progress, so nations are destroyed and advancement hindered.—*Abdu'l-Bahá*

The group consisting of mother, father and child is the main educational agency of mankind.—*Martin Luther King Jr.*

The problem with the world is that we draw the circle of our family too small.—*Mother Teresa*

Praise be to God, those two faithful birds have sought shelter in one nest. I beseech God that He may enable them to raise an honoured family, for the importance of marriage lieth in the bringing up of a richly blessed family, so that with entire gladness they may, even as candles, illuminate the world. For the enlightenment of the world dependeth upon the existence of man. If man did not exist in this world, it would have been like a tree without fruit. My hope is that you both may become even as one tree, and may, through the outpourings of the cloud of loving-kindness, acquire freshness and charm, and may blossom and yield fruit, so that your line may eternally endure. — *Abdu'l-Bahá*

There is no doubt that it is around the family and the home that all the greatest virtues... are created, strengthened and maintained. — *Winston Churchill*



While the children are yet in their infancy feed them from the breast of heavenly grace, foster them in the cradle of all excellence, rear them in the embrace of bounty. Give them the advantage of every useful kind of knowledge. Let them share in every new and rare and wondrous craft and art. Bring them up to work and strive, and accustom them to hardship. Teach them to dedicate their lives to matters of great import, and inspire them to undertake studies that will benefit mankind.—*‘Abdu’l-Bahá*

Ye should consider the question of goodly character as of the first importance. It is incumbent upon every father and mother to counsel their children over a long period, and guide them unto those things which lead to everlasting honour.—*‘Abdu’l-Bahá*

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.—*Proverbs 22:6*

The purport is this, that to train the character of humankind is one of the weightiest commandments of God, and the influence of such training is the same as that which the sun exerteth over tree and fruit. Children must be most carefully watched over, protected and trained; in such consisteth true parenthood and parental mercy. — *‘Abdu’l-Bahá*



Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord — *Psalms 127:3-5*

Let parents bequeath to their children not riches, but the spirit of reverence. — *Plato*

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth. — *Khalil Gibran*

Children are the most precious treasure a community can possess, for in them are the promise and guarantee of the future. They bear the seeds of the character of future society which is largely shaped by what the adults constituting the community do or fail to do with respect to children. They are a trust no community can neglect with impunity. An all-embracing love of children, the manner of treating them, the quality of the attention shown them, the spirit of adult behaviour toward them—these are all among the vital aspects of the requisite attitude.—*The Universal House of Justice*

It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.

—*Frederick Douglass*

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.—*1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.—*Lao Tzu*

I sustain myself with the love of family.—*Maya Angelou*



Families are like branches on a tree. We grow in different directions yet our roots remain as one.—*Anonymous*

The greatest moments in life are not concerned with selfish achievements but rather with the things we do for the people we love and esteem.—*Walt Disney*

Without love, there is no reason to know anyone, for love will, in the end, connect us to our neighbors, our children and our hearts.—*Martin Luther King Jr.*



Show honour to your parents and pay homage to them. This will cause blessings to descend upon you from the clouds of the bounty of your Lord, the Exalted, the Great.

—*Bahá'u'lláh*

...and a fundamental unity is that of the family.—*The Universal House of Justice*

Bahá'u'lláh also stressed the importance of consultation. We should not think this worthwhile method of seeking solutions is confined to the administrative institutions... Family consultation employing full and frank discussion, and animated by awareness of the need for moderation and balance, can be the panacea for domestic conflict.—*The Universal House of Justice*

Raise your words, not voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder.—*Rumi*

Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other.—*Colossians 3:13*

O God, my God! With utter lowliness and fervour, humility and devotion, I implore Thee with my tongue and my heart, with my spirit and my soul, and with my mind and my conscience, to grant the most cherished of all desires, destine the most meritorious of all deeds, and ordain all honour and perfection, favour and beauty, prosperity and salvation for this family that hath hastened to Thy sheltering shadow at the break of Thy resplendent morn and sought refuge within Thy safe haven and Thy mighty stronghold.— *‘Abdu’l-Bahá*

