Welcome the interruption

This "interruption"– this "pause"– is uncomfortable, and continually exposes a lot about us individually and as families. Faith is tested as fear, stress, and isolation surround us.

Everyone's a number of weeks into the shelter in place order which has paused our daily routines and forced new temporary ones. How are your families doing? Are you passing your time well (School? Entertainment? Laying around not doing much? Interacting well or getting short with each other?). How are you faring in all of the uncertainty?

What if you could use this time to discover, for the first time, your family's purpose? When you look beyond busy schedules, school, sports and all kinds of other routine "to-dos" - what are you accomplishing, and for who?

God doesn't only just save us **from** something (sin and Hell), but He saves us **for** something–we are called to be ambassadors who act on behalf of Him. Keeping in mind Titus 3:1 (ESV) as our battle cry, encouraging us to "*be ready for every good work*".

While we are ready for every good work, In the interruption and uncertainty, we are called to comfort others, as the Lord has comforted us.

2 Corinthians 1:3b-4 (ESV) clearly lays this out: "...God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God". What a relief that we do not have to rely on our own strength in this moment, but a perfect, all-powerful God. What are you able to contribute to those "in affliction" who need comforting? It is all the more important to understand your God-given purpose in times of uncertainty.

Understanding your purpose, passions, and gifts in these moments, allows you to boldly step out into the chaos. Many resources have been published to aid in the process of discovering passions, purposes, and God-given talents. In June of 2018, Focus on the Family released **an article** that gave parents a guide on leading their children to discover their individual purpose. Another resource to help understand your purpose is the **S.H.A.P.E test** – a free online test that allows you to better understand yourself and your purpose.

What are you and your family's individual and collective gifts, skills, and passions? What has He blessed you with to be a blessing to others?

Safe Families provides **a framework** and opportunity for your family to have purpose and serve together to those in your community who are isolated and hurting. Your family can be mobilized to use the loving relationships and home that God has given you to change the trajectory of a child and family's life. Small or large, it all has purpose–it carries the same weight of the radical love and generosity of Christ.