

# Stewardship Forum

An evangelical alliance Partnership for Change

## Stewardship Tools for Leaders : Quotes & Illustrations

**Title: We just sat around and talked!**

**Author:**

John and Mary have the ideal family, at least on the outside. They have been married for 12 years; have successful careers and two children. Yet something was wrong on the inside. Mary was the first to identify it. "John," she began, "what's happening to our family? You know that we have not had a meal together for the past week and the next few days do not look any better." That evening the two of them sat down and counted the times during the past month that could be considered "family time", and were shocked at their findings.

Neither could remember the last time the family just sat around and talked! There were all sorts of excuses like tough times at work, after school clubs, football games and even church meetings.

"But how can we make sure our family has time together?" Mary questioned. With that they looked at each other and laughed. It'll never happen by itself", John acknowledged, "so guess what – we are going to put the family on our time schedules and learn to respect it".

"That sounds funny." replied Mary, "When we got married I thought things like this would just happen but, given our track record, that is just not true."

That night John and Mary made a decision that had a transforming effect on the future of their family. They vowed to have family time not only for prayers and Bible reading, but for talking and playing with their children every day.