

ISSUES: January – March 2024

Radio station KWPZ in Bellingham, Washington serves a wide audience that is both rural and urban, but is more religious than the general population, due to the nature of the station's format. KWPZ feels that this segment of the population is a specialized group whose concerns and interests are not adequately addressed elsewhere, and that the station plays a unique role in the community by meeting the needs and expectations of this group. Among the issues that were addressed in the programming of KWPZ in the first quarter of 2024 are issues that directly affect the family, like parenting, finances and relationships, as well as cultural issues, such as technology habits and navigating cultural divides.

KWPZ airs Focus On The Family, hosted by Jim Daly and John Fuller, designed to address the issues that directly relate to the family. The program is heard twice daily Monday through Friday at 5:00 am and 9:00 pm.

CULTURE (AND/OR) EDUCATION

Focus On The Family
Tuesday, January 2nd
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “How to Take Your Family Through a Digital Fast,” Molly DeFrank, author of *Digital Detox: The Two-Week Tech Reset for Kids*, was the special guest. Like most parents of children born after 2010, she embraced the new digital technologies of smart phones and tablets for her kids. But she grew increasingly alarmed as she observed detrimental effects of “zombified kids,” emotional outbursts, loss of other interests, etc. And she discovered alarming research that the average child spends more than 7 hours per day on a screen for entertainment purposes! Molly is not anti-tech; she simply wants to equip families to put technology in its proper place as a tool for our families.

CULTURE (AND/OR) EDUCATION continued

Focus On The Family
Monday, January 22nd
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part one of the two-part series, “Abortion Survivors Share the Value of Pre-Born Lives,” Priscilla Hurley shared about being recruited to work in the abortion industry before her heart was broken with the realization that precious lives were being taken. Melissa Ohden shared her story of surviving a saline abortion, against all odds, and later founding the Abortion Survivors Network. Both women now inspire and encourage thousands of people to champion life.

Focus On The Family
Tuesday, January 23rd
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part two of the two-part series, “Abortion Survivors Share the Value of Pre-Born Lives,” Priscilla Hurley shared about being recruited to work in the abortion industry before her heart was broken with the realization that precious lives were being taken. Melissa Ohden shared her story of surviving a saline abortion, against all odds, and later founding the Abortion Survivors Network. Both women now inspire and encourage thousands of people to champion life.

Focus On The Family
Monday, February 19th
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Changing Minds to Save the Pre-Born,” Kristan Hawkins, the president of Students for Life of America, shared inspiring stories about the pro-life movement to help listeners to speak up for the preborn and vulnerable women. She spoke about what motivated her as a teenager to get involved in the pro-life movement, her work with Students for Life of America, and how to graciously deal with criticism, attacks, and misinformation from abortion advocates.

CULTURE (AND/OR) EDUCATION continued

Focus On The Family

Friday, March 15th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Becoming Screen Savvy As a Family,” Adam Holz and Paul Asay from Focus on the Family’s Plugged In team equipped listeners with information to guide your family to make healthy media choices. They explained what the Bible says about entertainment and how to engage with and teach your kids discernment when it comes to what they are watching and playing.

FAMILY WELFARE

Focus On The Family

Tuesday, January 9th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

One in five households care for a child with a disability. Authors Laura Wifler and Erin Smalley are included in this count as they are both mothers to daughters with special needs. In “Special Needs and the Imago Dei: Encouragement for Parents,” they shared how they have learned to navigate parenting through the lens of disabilities. Some days involve going to physical therapy or undergoing surgery, other days include coping with a school bully or a difficult diagnosis. Laura and Erin reminded listeners that the smallest acts of inclusivity, such as a kind word or a friendly smile, can make all the difference.

Focus On The Family

Tuesday, January 10th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Homesteading: Embracing a Simpler Life,” author and homesteader Kathi Lipp offered insightful ideas on homesteading. Her practical tips included creative cooking, gardening, and getting through harsh weather. Even if you live in a busy city, you can simplify and use your resources intentionally.

FAMILY WELFARE continued

Focus On The Family

Wednesday, January 24th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

Money is one of the top reasons why couples experience conflict in marriage. Authors Taylor and Megan Kovar, aka ‘The Money Couple’ believe the conflict isn’t about money but about a lack of communication about money. In “When Your Money and Marriage Clash,” they explained how to be more content with your financial situation and trust God for the future.

Focus On The Family

Thursday, February 8th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part one of the two-part series, “Leading Your Family as a Single Mom,” Pam Farrel (raised by a single mom) and PeggySue Wells (a single mom of seven) offered guidance to single moms (and dads) as they navigate life with their children. They examined some of the best decisions a single mom can make—things like choosing to thrive, creating a nurturing home, introducing your child to Jesus, and learning to respond to situations in healthy ways. It was an encouraging conversation for single parents.

Focus On The Family

Friday, February 9th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part two of the two-part series, “Leading Your Family as a Single Mom,” Pam Farrel (raised by a single mom) and PeggySue Wells (a single mom of seven) offered guidance to single moms (and dads) as they navigate life with their children. They examined some of the best decisions a single mom can make—things like choosing to thrive, creating a nurturing home, introducing your child to Jesus, and learning to respond to situations in healthy ways. It was an encouraging conversation for single parents.

FAMILY WELFARE continued

Focus On The Family
Tuesday, February 27th
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part one of the two-part series, “When Lives Collide: Navigating Remarriage and Stepfamily,” author and speaker Sabrina Beasley McDonald helped couples and single adults prepare for remarriage and the formation of a stepfamily. She also spoke about the unique challenges that couples and stepfamilies face in remarriages.

Focus On The Family
Wednesday, February 28th
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

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PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH

Focus On The Family
Friday, January 5th
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

Have you ever been betrayed by a close friend or a loved one? Does it seem impossible to forgive that person? In this transparent program, “Finding Freedom Through the Art of Forgiveness,” Pastor Phil Waldrep shared how to overcome the natural feelings of denial, bitterness, and a need for vengeance, by embracing biblical forgiveness. The benefits of forgiveness include relief from the pain of the betrayal, release from the need for retribution, and a healthy sense of detachment from the situation.

PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH continued

Focus On The Family

Wednesday, January 10th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part one of the two-part series, “Breaking Bad Habits in Your Life,” counselor and author Debra Fileta shared to help people experience change in healthy ways. She warned about the typical pattern of changing a few externals in our lives but not working on our ‘internal wiring.’ Debra examined our thought life and how easy it is for our brains to follow the path of least resistance.

Focus On The Family

Thursday, January 11th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part two of the two-part series, “Breaking Bad Habits in Your Life,” counselor and author Debra Fileta shared to help people experience change in healthy ways. She warned about the typical pattern of changing a few externals in our lives but not working on our ‘internal wiring.’ Debra examined our thought life and how easy it is for our brains to follow the path of least resistance.

Focus On The Family

Tuesday, January 30th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part one of the two-part series, “Finding Hope For Lasting Relief From Depression,” Dr. Gregory Jantz, a leading authority on mental and behavioral health, shared encouragement and help for those overwhelmed by feelings of guilt and shame associated with depression. He told success stories from patients who’ve found hope and healing for mind, soul and body, by developing healthy habits, growing spiritually in your faith community, and taking prescribed medication when appropriate.

PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH continued

Focus On The Family

Wednesday, January 31st

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part two of the two-part series, “Finding Hope For Lasting Relief From Depression,” Dr. Gregory Jantz, a leading authority on mental and behavioral health, shared encouragement and help for those overwhelmed by feelings of guilt and shame associated with depression. He told success stories from patients who’ve found hope and healing for mind, soul and body, by developing healthy habits, growing spiritually in your faith community, and taking prescribed medication when appropriate.

Focus On The Family

Monday, February 12th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

Research increasingly shows that our culture is in the midst of a mental health epidemic, especially among children and youth — persistent feelings of sadness and hopelessness, anxiety and even suicidal thoughts. But Dr. Danny Huerta believes parents can offset these issues by routinely initiating conversations with their children to assess their mental and emotional well-being. In “Cultivating a Mentally Healthy Family,” he encouraged parents to establish a solid spiritual environment in the home to help improve mental health.

RELIGION

Focus On The Family

Friday, January 12th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Growing Closer Through Family Devotions,” NFL chaplain Jonathan Evans and his wife, Kanika, offered parents practical ideas for effectively leading family devotions.

RELIGION continued

Focus On The Family
Monday, January 15th
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Seeing God’s Image in All Men,” Pastor Miles McPherson challenged believers of all skin tones to consider the fact that grouping humans by skin color promotes racism, which hinders the Gospel. He encouraged listeners to treat every person like they truly were created in the image of God.

Focus On The Family
Thursday, February 15th
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

Are you waiting for a miracle from God? In “Believing God’s Promises Despite Hard Circumstances,” author and Bible teacher Lisa Harper shares how the Lord redeemed gut-wrenching disappointments in her life. She encouraged believers to see “waiting on God” as the bold stance of a prayerful warrior, not an attitude of defeated pessimism.

Focus On The Family
Thursday, March 21st
9:00 p.m. (28:30)

As a former trauma surgeon, Dr. Kathryn Butler saw suffering and death firsthand more times than she could count. Sometimes her patients would have a happy outcome, while others endured unspeakable tragedies. Before becoming a Christian, these tragedies led Kathryn to question God and to struggle with intense depression. In “Seeing God’s Goodness During Medical Crises,” she shared about the glimmers of grace that helped her embrace God’s sovereignty in times of suffering and loss.

YOUTH/STUDENT

Focus On The Family

Wednesday, January 17th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Investing in Your Child for the Teen Years,” a panel of parents join with Jim Daly and John Fuller to discuss preparing their children for the teen years and adulthood, providing a biblical perspective on sexuality, peer relationships and technology.

Focus On The Family

Monday, January 29th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Teaching Children to Celebrate Their Strengths,” author and public speaker Lucille Williams equipped listeners with ways you can nurture your child’s strengths and help them learn to overcome their weaknesses. She shared her story of struggle and challenges as she discovered her own abilities. By building a strong identity in Christ, you can develop strategies to highlight their talents.

Focus On The Family

Tuesday, February 20th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part one of the two-part series “Practical Advice for Parenting Strong-Willed Children,” educator and author Cynthia Tobias offered encouragement and practical advice for the difficult scenarios faced by frustrated parents of strong-willed children, ranging from very young to adult.

Focus On The Family

Wednesday, February 21st

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In part two of the two-part series “Practical Advice for Parenting Strong-Willed Children,” educator and author Cynthia Tobias offered encouragement and practical advice for the difficult scenarios faced by frustrated parents of strong-willed children, ranging from very young to adult.

YOUTH/STUDENT continued

Focus On The Family

Monday, March 11th

9:00 p.m. (28:30)

In “Putting Children First in Education,” educator and author Cynthia Tobias shared practical advice on how to best maximize your student’s environment, attitude, time-management, learning style, organizational skills, and mental capacity. She helped parents understand the various schooling options so they can decide what method of education will be best for their child.

On March 20th, KWPZ hosted an all-day on-air event partnering with World Concern to offer a method for listeners who wanted to contribute to the 44-Cent Cure. The 44-Cent Cure cures children from dangerous and painful intestinal parasites and delivers them from the long-lasting impacts of malnutrition, stunted growth, and worse.

KWPZ also served the local community with on-air announcements of area school closures due to inclement weather, major road closures, major traffic diversions and Amber Alerts, alerting the listening area to an abducted child.

Submitted on April 10, 2024