Welcome to Heart-to-Heart!
Organizing Home and Family Life: A Heart at Rest
“Disorganization and disorder hinders peace.”
– Howard Dayton, Compass Ministries
“Let all things be done decently and in order.”

1 Corinthians 14:40 (NIV)
“Keeping a home of order is not for the sake of order. It’s for the sake of being more available to your family.” - Carol Drew
The key question in getting organized: “How can I be more (or better) prepared for this?”
Fifteen Basic Tips for Home and Family Organization
1. “Everything has a place. Everything in its place.”

2. Your day starts the night before.

3. Handle a paper one time and one time only.
4. Be in the habit of regularly purging.

5. Use colored file folders to organize daily papers.

6. Create an Important Papers Notebook for your family.
7. Utilize baskets in every room.

8. Create a Central Home Management Area.

9. Teach, and then require kids to daily “make” their bed and pick up their floor.
10. Stock duplicates in each room of the house.

11. Manage time instead of letting it manage you.

12. Pick up every evening, at least on the living level.
13. Implement a chore plan for kids.

14. Don’t “force” your organization on your family.

15. Minimize your personal schedule.
“Chances are, if you become disorganized in one area of your life, the disorganization will spread. With so many of us having so little time, the problem can quickly get out of control, leading even to chaos. Areas of life that need managing are time, projects and to-dos, paperwork, stuff and space. You'll probably need to experiment with organizational solutions to find those that work best for you. Find this proper fit, because the No. 1 way to stay organized is to actually use your system.” – Sophie Johnson, eHow Contributor
Write on your index card:

• What do you need to go home and do **today** to be energized in regard to being more organized?
• What two things on list of tips will you go home and do **this week**?
The most important question is not, “Am I managing my TIME wisely?” but “Am I managing ME wisely?”
“It’s not what we do that makes us tired. It’s what we don’t do.” – Donna Otto
The first time God mentions His solution to the busy, stressed out dilemma man finds himself in is in Exodus 20 in the form of the 4th commandment: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
“[Earnestly] remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy (withdrawn from common employment and dedicated to God).”

Exodus 20:8 (AMP)
Ceremonial Sabbath – Old Testament
Sabbath Rest – New Testament
Personal Sabbath – Modern Day
“Let be and be still, and know (recognize and understand) that I am God.” Psalm 46:10 (AMP)
New American Standard: “Cease from striving …”
Sabbath in Hebrew: intermission

Webster’s English Dictionary definition: an interval of time between periods of activity
The Cardinal Sabbath rule for Sabbath:  Don’t do what you always do!

Cease from ____________________________.
• Do whatever is different from your regular daily routine.
• Do whatever gives you rest.
• Do whatever fills you up, rejuvenates and restores you.
“For I am the LORD, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.”
-Malachi 3:6 (NKJV)

Consumed in Hebrew: overwhelmed

NETBible definition: to be spent; used up
“Descendants of Jacob, I am the LORD All-Powerful, and I never change. That's why you haven't been wiped out!”

Malachi 3:6 (CEV)
The Conclusion is Two-fold:

• Take some practical steps toward getting your home and family life in order.
• Take regular time to be with God who is the same yesterday, today and forever.
Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls.] Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls. For My yoke is wholesome (useful, good—not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, gracious, and pleasant), and My burden is light and easy to be borne.