



What makes Faith Church unique?

Life Group Work Sheet

Family

November 10, 2013

The theme of family is one of the most important themes in the entire Bible. The Old Testament focuses on God's dealings with one family—that of Abraham. From his relationship with this one family, God plans to bless all peoples, which he eventually does in the person of his Son.

Now in the New Testament, the people of God are considered to be a part of God's family (Eph. 1:5), co-heirs with Christ (Rom. 8:12-17), and as such they have all the benefits of being God's sons and daughters. Our Life Group lesson this week is split into two parts: understanding our identity in our new family, and how this new identity impacts our interactions with our earthly family.

Getting to Know Each Other

1. With Thanksgiving being a family holiday and right around the corner, share a memorable experience from a past Thanksgiving. What made it special? In what ways does that memory make you thankful for your family?

Our New Family

Read Romans 8:12-16.

2. What are some of the reasons that God uses the imagery of family to describe our relationship with him through the person of Jesus?

Read 1 John 2:9-11; 3:11-15; 4:18-21.

3. What do these passages from 1 John tell us about relationships in this new family of God?
4. How does our understanding of who we are in God's family impact our relationships with our earthly families? Consider the following situations:

- a. You have an estranged family member who refuses to interact with the rest of your family.
- b. You have a family member who is a professing Christian and enters into a relationship with a non-Christian.

Our Earthly Family

Read Deut. 6:4-9; 11:18-21.

5. What is the church's responsibility in instilling children with a biblical worldview and knowledge of the gospel? What are parents' responsibilities?
 - a. What are some ways that Faith Church does this well? What are some areas where it can improve?
 - b. For those with children, what are some practical ways to raise your children in a godly way? How can you help one another in this process?

As you close, be sure to take some time to pray for the children of your group, that God would give wisdom to the parents in your group in how to raise them in the "paths of God". Pray that each of the children in your group would come to know who God is in the person of Jesus Christ.