

Water of Life Community Church
LESSONS WE LEARNED FROM THE LOCKDOWN
WEEK 3 - FAMILY MATTERS
EPHESIANS 5:21–6:4; 1 PETER 3:7-9; MATTHEW 6:19-21

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

ICE BREAKER

PRAYER

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

Families matter: for many of us, lockdown was a game changer. Being at home was a positive experience, which helped us to reconnect with family. For many of us, being at home together brought new stress, which built up and made us feel overwhelmed with our families. We may have thought “I am going to do this better than my parents” and we are finding that to be more difficult than we thought.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. READ EPHESIANS 5:21-33 AND 1 PETER 3:7-9

- a. What ideals do you see in these verses for families?
- b. Since we do not come from ideal families, how do we work out the tension between what Jesus says and what we do?

2. VALUING OUR FAMILIES

- a. The Bible speaks often about what we value. Valuing others over ourselves, grace over judgment, forgiveness over bitterness. How can we accomplish this in our families?
- b. In order for our families to be redemptive, what do we need to do?
- c. How can your family thrive, even in a pandemic?
- d. In what ways can you develop humility and forgiveness ahead of time...before the crisis?

3. READ EPHESIANS 6:1-4.

- a. What ideals for children do you see in these verses?

b. What ideals for parents do you see? Why is it important to recognize both sets of ideals?

c. What is your family identity?

d. What were the delights in your family when you were growing up? What were some disciplines or rituals? What were the deeds of your family?

4. READ MATTHEW 6:19-21.

a. What would it look like for your family to live in a way where you're storing up treasures on earth?

b. What would it look like to, instead, live in a way as to store up treasure in Heaven?

c. What are some steps you can take now to fight for your children's hearts?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

Why do you think so much of the Bible is devoted to teaching about family relationships? What should we learn from this fact?

What is a challenging aspect of family life for you right now? How can our group support you in that?

What is something you can do this week to show love and respect to someone in your family?

GOING DEEPER/WEEKLY CHALLENGE

REFLECT

- What was your family foundation like growing up? (i.e. Your delights, your disciplines your deeds?)

RESPOND

- Take one day this week to do an intentional act with your family (i.e. a meal, a phone call, a day trip somewhere).

Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "eDevotional" to 67076; or go to wolgroups.com and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 6:21, New International Version (NIV)

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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