



Small Group Discussion Guide

ICE BREAKER: Has cabin fever set in? What outdoor activity are you the most anxious to do?

INSTRUCTIONS: If your group meets bi-weekly, do 1 & 3.

1. Read Proverbs 24:3. Pastor Tom explained that healthy families require more than love, they require wise decisions and actions by wise parents. Do you believe this is the prevailing attitude among parents today? Discuss with each other wise decisions you have seen people make for their family. How did it impact their children? What wise actions would you take if you were (or are) parenting today? How would you make these decisions and with whom would you consult?
2. Read Luke 2:52. How is Jesus an example of how to prepare children for life? What does it mean to grow in wisdom and stature? What does it mean to grow in favor with God and man? Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. Pastor Tom quoted Rick Warren, "The moment you took part in conception you got a job description." What items from the passage in Deuteronomy should go on a parent's job description? How does a parent help their children build good relationships? Develop character? Follow the parent's values?
3. Read Proverbs 14:26, Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, and Mark 3:25. Pastor Tom stated, "Making your family a shelter in storms means listening; affection; affirmation; and get help when you need it." In your opinion, what TV families best exemplify what it means to be a shelter in storms? Picturing these families or other families you know personally, what makes it most difficult to listen, give affection/affirmation and encourage others to get help when needed? How can we become a shelter for those going through life's storms?
4. Read Ephesians 6:4, Proverbs 9:10 and Philippians 3:8. Pastor Tom asked 3 questions in his message. How would you answer them? "Does the way we live at home show [those in our life] what it means to be a person who is 100% sold-out to Jesus, or something else is more important?" "Is Jesus a name that's familiar in your [life] (used only in good ways)?" His final question, "Is there hope for your family? relates to Joshua 24:15b. Take a moment to read the verse aloud. His answer is "There is." How have you committed to make God the first priority of your life? Be specific. What next steps might you take to further your commitment?

Personal Guide for Week of April 22nd

There is very little in the Bible about Jesus' childhood. Luke chapter 2 is an exception. Even though Jesus is fully God and fully man, Mary and Joseph were given the task of raising Him. Read about their experience this week.

Day 1: Read Luke 2:1-12

Day 4: Read Luke 2:36-39

Day 2: Read Luke 2:13-21

Day 5: Read Luke 2:41-52

Day 3: Read Luke 2:22-35

IS THIS US?

MESSAGE NOTES AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION & PERSONAL GUIDES

"I HOPE YOU HAVE KIDS JUST LIKE YOU..."

APRIL 22, 2018

IS THIS US?

A SERIES ON PARENTING AND FAMILIES

“Is This Us?: I Hope You Have Kids Just Like You...”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

To have a healthy family is not an _____.

Healthy families require more than just _____ (note Proverbs 24:3).

Healthy families are the result of _____ decisions and actions by wise parents.

Healthy families:

1. Prepare Their Children for _____

Note Luke 2:52:

- “wisdom”
- “stature”
- “favor with _____”
- “favor with _____”

Note Deuteronomy 6:6-7

- A. R _____ - good ones don't just happen...
- B. Character—the sum total of our choices and _____...
- C. Values—when you decide to not “impose your values” on your children, you're _____ your responsibility as a parent.

2. _____ Their Children in Storms (note Proverbs 14:26)

- A. C _____
- B. F _____ (note Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)
- C. R _____ (note Mark 3:25)

Making your family a shelter in storms means listening; _____; affirmation; and get help when you need it.

3. Have _____ with Their Children

Note Psalm 127:3; Ecclesiastes 11:8a

4. _____ Their Children to God (note Ephesians 6:4)

Note Proverbs 9:10; Philippians 3:8

- Does the way we live at home show our children what it means to be a person who is _____% sold out to Jesus, or something else is more important?
- Is Jesus a name that's familiar in your home (used only in _____)?

Is This Us?:

- Is there hope for your family?
- There is—that hope is based on commitment to God as the _____ of your life (note Joshua 24:15b).

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use it to let us know about your commitment, too!



“I Hope You Have Kids Just Like You...”
Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES – Sauk Rapids Campus

To have a healthy family is not an accident.
Healthy families require more than just love (note Proverbs 24:3).
Healthy families are the result of wise decisions and actions by wise parents.

Healthy families:

1. Prepare Their Children for Life

Note Luke 2:52:

- “wisdom”
- “stature”
- “favor with God”
- “favor with man”

Note Deuteronomy 6:6-7

- A. Relationships – good ones don’t just happen...
- B. Character – the sum total of our choices and habits...
- C. Values – when you decide to not “impose your values” on your children, you’re abdicating your responsibility as a parent.

2. Shelter Their Children in Storms (note Proverbs 14:26)

- A. Change
- B. Failure (note Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)
- C. Rejection (note Mark 3:25)

Making your family a shelter in storms means listening; affection; affirmation; and get help when you need it.

3. Have Fun with Their Children

Note Psalm 127:3; Ecclesiastes 11:8a

4. Direct Their Children to God (note Ephesians 6:4)

Note Proverbs 9:10; Philippians 3:8

- Does the way we live at home show our children what it means to be a person who is 100% sold-out to Jesus, or something else is more important?
- Is *Jesus* a name that’s familiar in your home (used only in good ways)?

Is This Us?:

- Is there hope for your family?
- There is – that hope is based on commitment to God as the first priority of your life (note Joshua 24:15b).

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use it to let us know about your commitment, too!