**Considerations & Questions for Family Renewal Series**

(Suggestions for Conversation & Discussion)

**Evaluate** your work/family balance with complete honesty.

 On whom or what do you most rely for your own sense of worth?

**Determine** your personal and family priorities.

 Your calendar (time) and bank account (money) reveal much about priorities.

 What will really matter 10 years from now?

**Acknowledge** your most persistent worry or anxiety.

 How might you more fully rely on God to help you manage this concern?

**Admit** your greatest family disappointment.

 What family expectations are currently unmet in your life?

**Realize** that perfect families are a fantasy.

Love your family as if it all depends on you.

 Pray for your family because it all depends on God

**Examine** other biblical exemplars who experienced family beyond their birth family.

 David & Jonathan in 2 Samuel 1 [Shepherd & Prince]

 Ruth & Naomi in the book of Ruth [Cross-cultural In-laws]

 Paul & Timothy in Philippians 2 [Mentor & Mentee]

**Accept** your Family of Origin {Biological, adoptive or foster).

 They are what they are – no more, no less.

 They are made in the image of God and they are loved by God.

 Embrace the heritage you have, because you can’t change it – and God is Sovereign.

Is there a family member that I need to forgive?

**Identify** other people you consider “Family” – this is your Family of Choice.

 “*Close friends are family we get to choose.”*

**Decide** to Re-Imagine Your Family.

Give yourself permission to expand your “family”.

 Whom might you affirm as a re-imagined family member this month?