

## Family Life, 2.7.21

### Series: God In My Everything

Introduction: Where we are...

What if my relationship with my family is broken – or if I no longer have family?

- You can pursue the degree of relationship which is possible/wise. For help with discernment, check with people who know/love Jesus.
- You can pursue \_\_\_\_\_ relationships in other configurations.

Two kinds of family: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Some key purposes of family

- **A place of mutual \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.** Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 <sup>9</sup> Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: <sup>10</sup> If they fall down, they can help each other up. But pity those who fall and have no one to help them up! <sup>11</sup> Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? <sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.
- **A \_\_\_\_\_ ground.** Deuteronomy 6:1–9 <sup>1</sup> These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, <sup>2</sup> so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. <sup>3</sup> Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. <sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup> Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup> Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.
- **A place to \_\_\_\_\_ to dwell in unity.** Psalm 133. A song of ascents. Of David. <sup>1</sup> How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! <sup>2</sup> It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. <sup>3</sup> It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

What do we think this is like? It's not \_\_\_\_\_; it's \_\_\_\_\_. Even when we are full of the Holy Spirit, we have to \_\_\_\_\_ unity.

**Unity.** One third of the 'one another' commands deal with the unity of the church.

1. Be at peace with one another (Mk 9:50)
2. Don't grumble among one another (Jn 6:43)
3. Be of the same mind with one another (Ro 12:16, 15:5)
4. Accept one another (Ro 15:7)
5. Wait for one another before beginning the Eucharist (1 Co 11:33)
6. Don't bite, devour, and consume one another (Ga 5:15)
7. Don't boastfully challenge or envy one another (Ga 5:26).
8. Gently, patiently tolerate one another (Ep 4:2)
9. Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to one another (Ep 4:32)
10. Bear with and forgive one another (Co 3:13)
11. Seek good for one another, and don't repay evil for evil (1 Th 5:15)
12. Don't complain against one another (Jas 4:11, 5:9)
13. Confess sins to one another (Jas 5:16)

**Love.** One third of them instruct Christians to love one another.

1. Love one another (Jn 13:34, 15:12, 17; Ro 13:8; 1 Th 3:12, 4:9; 1 Pe 1:22; 1 Jn 3:11, 4:7, 11; 2 Jn 5)
2. Through love, serve one another (Ga 5:13)
3. Tolerate one another in love (Ep 4:2)
4. Greet one another with a kiss of love (1 Pe 5:14)
5. Be devoted to one another in love (Ro 12:10)

**Humility.** About 15% stress an attitude of humility and deference among believers.

1. Give preference to one another in honor (Ro 12:10)
2. Regard one another as more important than yourselves (Php 2:3)
3. Serve one another (Ga 5:13)
4. Wash one another's feet (Jn 13:14)
5. Don't be haughty: be of the same mind (Ro 12:16)
6. Be subject to one another (Ep 5:21)
7. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another (1 Pe 5:5)

**Here's the rest:**

1. Do not judge one another, and don't put a stumbling block in a brother's way (Ro 14:13)
2. Greet one another with a kiss (Ro 16:16; 1 Co 16:20; 2 Co 13:12)
3. Husbands and wives: don't deprive one another of physical intimacy (1 Co 7:5)
4. Bear one another's burdens (Ga 6:2)
5. Speak truth to one another (Ep 4:25)
6. Don't lie to one another (Co 3:9)
7. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection (1 Th 4:18)
8. Encourage and build up one another (1 Th 5:11)
9. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (He 10:24)
10. Pray for one another (Jas 5:16)

11. Be hospitable to one another (1 Pe 4:9)

- **A \_\_\_\_\_ to the world:** A picture of God's \_\_\_\_\_ for his people. An

object lesson of his heart which serves and blesses everyone, whether they are \_\_\_\_\_ or not.

*Some concrete ideas for cultivating family life*

- Schedule time.
- Make a financial investment.
- Read a book together.
- Make others a part of your family – perhaps especially at special family times.
- Practice hospitality.