

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

Week of 09/07/14 – Living Intentionally In the Family – Part 2

Food and Fellowship:

Take time to enjoy some food and fellowship together.

Prayer:

Take a few minutes to share prayer requests individually. As each person shares, give opportunity for someone in the group to commit to pray for the requests that were just shared. After all of the prayer requests have been shared, take a few minutes to pray over the requests. One person should begin praying with a person designated to close after everyone who desires to pray out loud has prayed.

Reflect:

Take a few minutes to reflect on the Sermon from the most recent Sunday.

- What sticks out in your mind?
- What principle/principles did you glean?
- Have you had any opportunity to apply personally anything from the sermon? Please share.

Looking In:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

⁴“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Psalm 78:5-7

**He established a testimony in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our fathers
to teach to their children,
⁶ that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and arise and tell them to their children,
⁷ so that they should set their hope in God
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;**

Discussion Questions:

(This week, many of the questions focus on parents/grandparents. If these do not directly apply then look at the questions from another direction. How can you positively impact the next generation with the Christian faith?)

1. What are some of the difficulties of raising kids (if applicable)?
What difficulties have you experienced when trying to share your faith with your kids?
2. What are some of the consequences if we do not share or "hand off" our faith to the next generation?
By the time kids from the local elementary school enter into adult life, it is assumed that they, as a demographic, will be more than 50% post Christian. How will that impact the church? The culture?
3. Take the test (the questions provided below were used by Barna research to ascertain roughly how "post-Christian" a person was. If nine or more apply then Barna would assess that a person would be moderately to highly post-Christian)

1. Do not believe in God
2. Identify as atheist or agnostic
3. Disagree that faith is important in their lives
4. Have not prayed to God (in the last year)
5. Have never made a commitment to Jesus
6. Disagree the Bible is accurate
7. Have not donated money to a church (in the last year)
8. Have not attended a Christian church (in the last year)
9. Agree that Jesus committed sins
10. Do not feel a responsibility to "share their faith"
11. Have not read the Bible (in the last week)
12. Have not volunteered at church (in the last week)
13. Have not attended Sunday school (in the last week)
14. Have not attended religious small group (in the last week)
15. Do not participate in a house church (in the last year)

How did you score?

How would some of your neighbors/co-workers score? (of course we don't really know...but it is helpful to see how many in our culture view the faith)

4. We are called to teach and raise our kids in the faith.
What are some practical ways that we can "live out" our faith so that our kids can follow?
(Both in doctrine and in demonstration) What resources are available to help?

Close:

Take a moment to close with prayer (please pray for the families of Freewheel. Pray that our kids will be raised in the Lord so that they can raise their kids in Christ.)