

Family Matters Notes
“Graciously created and graciously used”
June 12, 2022

Genesis 1:28

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

God created and designed families, which makes them significant.

2 Timothy 1:5

5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

There is a deep purpose present in every family context.

Families don't have to be perfect to be used.

Our broken and dysfunctional families create opportunities for grace to be present.

Romans 5:6-8

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John Bunyan Quote-

“If I assure God's people of his love, then they will do whatever he wants.”

Ephesians 5:1-2

1 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

How often are we expressing what our families are *not* rather than affirm who they are and our love for them?

Grace means that God loves us uniquely and specially.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Families of grace allow members to make mistakes.

The goal of a home built on grace teaches that family members are loved, not a family built on not sinning.

1 John 4:18

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.

Romans 7:24-25

24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? 25 Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Loved in spite of sin is a love that leads to being empowered.

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- Describe your family. Were there extended relatives that were significant? What are the strengths and weaknesses of your family?
- How have you wondered about God using your family? How might the Old Testament and the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1 encourage us about the kinds of families God uses?
- Have you considered that your family is a place to learn about grace? What is a difficult area in your family that you need God's grace? What is a way that you can extend grace through this difficulty?
- Take some time and pray for each family represented in your Grow group, for the love that God has for them and for the opportunity to grow in that same love towards one another.