

Connect Group

Week 1- Family

Review Last week

- 1) How Does God describe the Family at Creation (Genesis 1:27, 2:24)?
- 2) How does Ephesians 5:21 relate to family?
- 3) How does God's Spiritual Family give us an example for living within our physical family? (See Ephesians 5:1-2, 21)

Discussion for This week: Psalm 128: Striving for Unity in the Fear of the Lord

According to the Psalmist, living with the "fear of the Lord" is an essential element to contentment within the home.

- 1) What does it mean to have the "fear of the Lord"? (Jeremiah 32:38-40, Colossians 1:15-17,)
- 2) For those who have been adopted as His children (Romans 8:15, what does it NOT mean? (Matthew 25:24-15)
- 3) According to Scripture, what are some of the benefits of having "the fear of the Lord"? (Ps. 25:12-13, Ps. 112:2-8, Ps. 31:20, Ps. 103:11-18, Prov. 1:7, 9:10, 8:13, 14:26, 15:33, Malachi)

According to Psalm 128:3, we are to understand that God views our children as valuable assets. Not only are we to see them as valuable, but we should see them not as branches, but trees. Meaning we should be raising them up in the fear of the Lord with the understanding that they will bear their own fruit one day in their own orchard. As parents we have been tasked to raise them up around "our" table. This paints a picture of unity and contentment within the family as they all gather around the table.

- 1) Why is this concept of unity so important? (John 17:20-23)
- 2) What does unity look like within the home? (Colossians 3:14-17)
- 3) What are some ways you will seek to increase the reality that God IS the environment in which our families exist?