

# The Desire for Family

## Ephesians 2

We share family life in the household of God.

### Family Traits:

1. In God's house, we're all connected in a \_\_\_\_\_.

- Like a \_\_\_\_\_ 19
- Like a \_\_\_\_\_ 21
- Like a \_\_\_\_\_ 22

### What's that look like?

We \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus by \_\_\_\_\_ for hurting people.

If we aren't \_\_\_\_\_ for people we can't claim we  
\_\_\_\_\_.  
Matthew 25:35-40

**You:** *gave Me, invited Me, visited Me*

**Me:** *one of these brothers (40), the least of these (45)*

**I was:** *hungry, thirsty, a stranger, in prison!*

2. In God's house, we're all \_\_\_\_\_ but we're family sharing one name.

- \_\_\_\_\_ isn't a \_\_\_\_\_ – it gives us a place to bond.
  - *you were... **But God...*** 4
  - *you were... **But, now, in Christ...***  
(*from whom every family derives its name... 3:15*)

### What's that look like?

Families are \_\_\_\_\_. We're all \_\_\_\_\_, being re...

- \_\_\_\_\_ don't \_\_\_\_\_ – they make us  
**dependent.** 13-16  
*He broke down the barrier of the dividing wall...so that*
  - *He might make the two into one new man*
  - *He might reconcile them both into one new body*

### What's that look like?

Jesus personally touched people. Matthew 5 - 9

Jesus is personally present when we touch people *in His name.*  
Matthew 18:5, 20

**Challenge:** Live together in a way that shows God is in the house.

*What if, as God's family, we did more... ?*

## Discussion Guide: The Desire for Family

Opener: What does the desire for (or lack of *family*) look like in our culture?

Share “family snapshots” in a few words finishing this sentence:  
“I see (or have seen) God’s family when...”

- ♥ How has “church” failed to fill the heart-emptiness of this desire?
  - What’s your personal experience in this “desire for” family?
  - What’s your heart-wound/emptiness rooted in this desire unfulfilled?
  - Who/what do we blame for this unfulfilled desire?  
Religion? The world-system? Me?
  
- ♥ What Scripture passages do you think of when you think of what it means to enter and live in God’s family?  
*What does it mean for a church to be family (the house/household of God)?*
  
- ♥ **What are WE going to do about it?**  
Finish this sentence: Since we **are** God’s family, I think we should do more...  
And we should do less...

***For you personally and us corporately:***

- **What are YOU GOING TO DO more of?**
- **What are YOU GOING TO DO less of?**
- **What are YOU GOING TO DO next to obey God’s voice?**

### *Resources for Intimacy with the Family (Including Father)*

**“Desire” Prompt:** (in order of Mike’s preference, not alphabetical)

Arthur, Kay, Israel, My Beloved, Harvest House Publishers, 1996

Curtis, Brent, Eldredge, John, The Sacred Romance, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1997

**Radio Bible Class, Discovery Series.**

**Meeting Jesus** [http://www.jesuschristonly.com/discovery\\_series/](http://www.jesuschristonly.com/discovery_series/)

Jackson, Tim and De Haan, Mart, Designed for Desire, RBC Ministries

**“Passion” Prompts:**

Chan, Francis, Crazy Love, Scripture Reading App (Free for Apple and Android)

**Prayer Prompts:** Put your **email address on a Connection Card** so you receive the upcoming eblasts on Prayer and Intimacy.

# The Desire for Family

## Ephesians 2

We share family life in the household of God.

### Family Traits:

1. In God's house, we're all connected in a caring community.

- Like a family 19
- Like a house 21
- Like a home 22

### What's that look like?

We care for Jesus by caring for hurting people.

If we aren't caring for people we can't claim we care.

Matthew 25:35-40

**You:** *gave Me, invited Me, visited Me*

**Me:** *one of these brothers (40), the least of these (45)*

**I was:** *hungry, thirsty, a stranger, in prison!*

2. In God's house, we're all different but we're family sharing one name.

- Brokenness isn't a barrier – it gives us a place to bond.

- you were... **But God...** 4

- you were... **But, now, in Christ...**

*(from whom every family derives its name... 3:15)*

### What's that look like?

Families are messy. We're all messes, being re...

- Differences don't divide – they make us dependent. 13-16

*He broke down the barrier of the dividing wall...so that*

- *He might make the two into one new man*

- *He might reconcile them both into one new body*

### What's that look like?

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