

# groups.

— Notes | September 28, 2025

## Family | God's Design

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Family is not a human idea or invention. Family is God's DIVINE DESIGN. From the moment we are created, we are surrounded by family. Our Heavenly Father forms us in our mother's womb. After we take our first breath, we meet those who will inform our first experience of family. In addition, when we surrender to Jesus and bow to Him as Lord, we become a NEW CREATION and are welcomed into His Church Family. God created family so we would know Him and so we would know the love He has for each of us.

Perhaps you have not experienced the perfect family God intended. The truth is that many find themselves in a dysfunctional family because Satan has tried to redefine what God has already defined. But God's design never changes, and it's never too late to chase after His Design and have the healthy family He intended for you. You and your family can begin to experience the full life God has available to everyone.

### Key Scripture | Genesis 1:27-28

"So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

### Related Scriptures

— Genesis 4:1, Matthew 12:46-50, Ephesians 5, 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 1 Corinthians 3:1-4, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, John 17:20-23

### Icebreakers:

— Q: What is your favorite family game to play? Why?

## Key Thoughts and Reflections: \_\_\_\_\_

### I. Family is God's Design

Q: Read today's key scripture. What was the first command that God gave mankind? Share some reasons why this is important in God's design for the family.

Q: Compare Matthew 12:50 with Genesis 1:28. How does humanity's mission to be fruitful and multiply relate to Jesus' calling to do the will of the Father? Why are these two missions important in the Kingdom of God?

Q: What are some ways that Satan will attempt to thwart these two missions?

### II. Chase Divine Design

Q: God's design for family is like that of a round wheel—the round design makes life roll. Satan's counterfeit redefinitions can be likened to a square wheel, which does not roll and can go nowhere. Name some square-wheel counterfeit redefinitions of family in marriage, parenting, identity, etc. that can lead to dysfunction.

Q: Paul teaches us in Ephesians 5:1-2 two things that lead to unity and maturity. How can these keep us from falling into the enemy's snare? How might living this out lead to a healthy family?

Q: What are some practical ways that we can chase God's divine design in both the nuclear and church family?

### III. Choose Godly Things

Q: In 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, Paul teaches that we are one family united under Jesus. What does he warn against in the remainder of the passage?

Q: Name some ways that division can tear a family apart?

Q: Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. What is God calling us into that resolves the problem of division? Share some practical ways these are lived out and how they can lead to unity.

## Get Practical \_\_\_\_\_

Take time this week to be still before the Lord and ask Him to show you where He wants to align you and your family with His design. Are you moving forward in His round wheel definition of family? Or do you feel stuck? Over the next seven days, commit to praying for both your immediate family and your church family. Journal 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 three times. The first time, write the scripture as is. The second time, exchange love for your name. The third time, write God in exchange for love. Love is a fruit of His Spirit. Ask Him to pour His love into you and to show you how to pour His love into those within your family. If you need prayer, reach out to your small group leader or text prayer to 37748 so we can pray with you.