

SERMON SERIES: We Are Family
SCRIPTURE: Philippians 2:5-11
SPEAKER: Mike Woodruff
DATE: May 6-7, 2017

Small Group Discussion Guide

for leaders (see below for participants' guide)

Gathering Time

- Make sure newcomers are welcomed and engaged in conversation
- Offer a snack and drink if the setting is right (i.e. a home)
- Arrange seating so everyone in the group can see each other

Getting Acquainted

- **What is one takeaway from your last small group meeting? How are you doing putting it into practice in your life?**
 - As routine opener to group meetings, this question encourages individuals to apply your discussions in their lives. It also brings continuity & intentionality from meeting to meeting.
- **What are the most important relationship lessons you've learned by experience?**
 - This question sets the stage for the Bible Exploration and helps people get to know one another on a personal level.

Bible Exploration

- **Read Philippians 2:5-11 as a group and reflect on it as teaching on relationships. What statements stand out and why? Discuss.**
- **Humility is the hallmark of this description of Jesus' character and actions. In what ways did Jesus demonstrate humility? In what ways might God be calling you to demonstrate humility in your marriage or other relationships?**
- **How does God respond to humility?**
- **In his sermon, Mike makes three points from the Bible's teaching on relationships. What effect could each of these points have on your marriage or relationships?**
 - The best thing you can do for your significant other is to love God.
 - Wives, honor and affirm your husband. Husbands, suffer first and suffer most.
 - You usually win by losing.
- **What is one takeaway from this week's discussion you can begin applying to your life this week? Be specific, and be prepared to share next time how it went.**

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Prayer

- Invite the group to participate in a time of “conversational” prayer. Each person may pray as often as he or she wants, but only 1-2 short sentences on one topic at a time. This lowers the barrier of participation for people unaccustomed to praying with others.

Wrap-Up

- Be sure to end the formal conversation on time.
- Thank newcomers for joining you, and invite everyone to the next meeting.
- Encourage people to linger for a few minutes, and do your best to have a personal interaction with each individual before he or she leaves.

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