

Small Group Study Guide
For the weekend of 8.15.2010
Exodus 20.12 & Romans 8.12-17 – God our Father

Introduction

This weekend at the Summit we are working through the 5th commandment, “honor your father and mother.” In small group we are going to be working through how this can be applied to our specific lives. This should be a great time to get to know one another’s stories a little bit. We will also be looking at how God’s adoption of us changes how we interact with him and with our family here on earth.

Note: The small group study guide is designed to work in partnership with the weekend message. So each week you should work through this guide, take notes during the sermon, and come prepared to discuss both of these in your group.

Break the ice

What was the best/most humorous one-liner the person/people who raised you used to use to discipline you? (ex: “Spencer Cook Shelton...I’m calling your father!”
Author’s note: my dad was a big guy.)

What do you appreciate most about the person/people who raised you as a child?

Dig Into the text

Read Exodus 20.12 and look over any notes you have from the sermon. What hit home most with you from the message on the 5th commandment?

Read Romans 8.12-17. List out the promises & assurances that we have from God in this passage?

What are the implications for God calling us his children and he our father?

How does your past experience with “father” figures color how you accept and trust in God as your father?

Apply it to your life

How can your small group family help each other grow to love & obey God as Father?

How does the cross shape how you honor your father and mother?

Prayer Guide

Matthew 6.5-14 – The Lord’s Prayer

Take time in your personal study and then as a group to pray this prayer Jesus taught his disciples. In praying through this passage pray the following:

- Praise God for the Father he is to us who provides daily for us (v.9)
- For our church, believe him in prayer for his provision for our needs we have to meet in order to move forward with the ministry opportunities he has given us.
- Confess to God areas in your life where you have been more worried about your kingdom than his kingdom (v.10)
- Pray for your pastors and elders. That they would not be led into temptation and Satan would not prevail in his attacks against them and our church. (v.13).