

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of March 9, 2014

---

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, *The Family Dad Always Wanted*, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## MY STORY

1. Most of us have met a person who you could call a "peace maker." They have the unique ability to diffuse tension and bring perspective to a stressful situation. What do you think are some typical actions and/or attitudes this type of person has to have in order to be known as a "peace maker"?

2. Of the six family rules listed in this week's teaching, which one caught your attention the most and why?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. We heard this weekend that a priority for God's family is to "seek peace and pursue it" (1 Peter 3:11). It's important to note that the peace that's being spoken of here doesn't just happen, nor is it all about constantly raising the surrender flag to get peace, but rather it's something we actively pursue. How do the following verses help us understand what pursuing peace looks like?

Proverbs 16:24

Romans 12:17-21

Galatians 6:1-2

Colossians 3:13

2. Chris talked about how important the family of God is, and how it's not about just getting along, but about representing God's love to our world in how we relate to one another. Because of this expectation, it's no surprise that the New Testament has over 30 verses that have "one another" commands. As you read through the following verses, jot down the "one another" command next to each verse.

Romans 12:10

Romans 15:7

James 5:16

Hebrews 10:24

1 Thessalonians 5:15

Looking back at what you wrote, put an “x” next to any verse that you’ve seen someone put into action and jot down a couple of words to explain it.

Rate Yourself: Put a check mark next to one or two you think you do OK with, and circle one or two you’d like to work on or make sure you’re putting into action.

3. Showing compassion and sympathy is no doubt a key to any family staying connected. Yet, some have a much easier time showing compassion and sympathy due to their personality, temperament and/or background. What do we learn about what it takes to show compassion and sympathy from Jesus and his disciples in Mark 6:30-44?

### **TAKING IT HOME**

Based on this week’s sermon and homework which of the “Simple family rules” or points in “How to get along” are important for you to remember and why?

Prayer Requests:

⇒

⇒

⇒

⇒

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of March 9, 2014

---

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, *The Family Dad Always Wanted*, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## MY STORY

1. Most of us have met a person who you could call a "peace maker." They have the unique ability to diffuse tension and bring perspective to a stressful situation. What do you think are some typical actions and/or attitudes this type of person has to have in order to be known as a "peace maker"?

2. Of the six family rules listed in this week's teaching, which one caught your attention the most and why?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. We heard this weekend that a priority for God's family is to "seek peace and pursue it" (1 Peter 3:11). It's important to note that the peace that's being spoken of here doesn't just happen, nor is it all about constantly raising the surrender flag to get peace, but rather it's something we actively pursue. How do the following verses help us understand what pursuing peace looks like?

### Proverbs 16:24

24 Gracious words are a honeycomb,  
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. [NIV]

### Romans 12:17-21

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.  
18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;  
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. [NIV]

### Galatians 6:1-2

Doing Good to All

1 Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. [NIV]

**Colossians 3:13**

13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. [NIV]

2. Chris talked about how important the family of God is, and how it's not about just getting along, but about representing God's love to our world in how we relate to one another. Because of this expectation, it's no surprise that the New Testament has over 30 verses that have "one another" commands. As you read through the following verses, jot down the "one another" command next to each verse.

**Romans 12:10**

10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. [NIV]

**Romans 15:7**

7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. [NIV]

**James 5:16**

16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. [NIV]

**Hebrews 10:24**

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, [NIV]

**1 Thessalonians 5:15**

15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. [NIV]

Looking back at what you wrote, put an "x" next to any verse that you've seen someone put into action and jot down a couple of words to explain it.

Rate Yourself: Put a check mark next to one or two you think you do OK with, and circle one or two you'd like to work on or make sure you're putting into action.

3. Showing compassion and sympathy is no doubt a key to any family staying connected. Yet, some have a much easier time showing compassion and sympathy due to their personality, temperament and/or background. What do we learn about what it takes to show compassion and sympathy from Jesus and his disciples in Mark 6:30-44?

**Mark 6:30-44**

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

30 The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. 31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

32 So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. 33 But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late. 36 Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

37 But he answered, “You give them something to eat.”

They said to him, “That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”

38 “How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.”

When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”

39 Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. 40

So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. 41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish

and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his

disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. 42 They all ate

and were satisfied, 43 and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread

and fish. 44 The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand. [NIV]

## **TAKING IT HOME**

Based on this week’s sermon and homework which of the “Simple family rules” or points in “How to get along” are important for you to remember and why?

Prayer Requests:

⇒

⇒

⇒

⇒

