



study questions



Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.

INTRODUCTION

Relationships. We can't live without 'em, but sometimes it seems like we can't live with 'em either. Add to that constant screed of what you have to do to be liked and loved that we see in movies, magazines, TV, and all sorts of media. Then there is the wild-west world of social media. How is a person to navigate it all?

The truth is, most of us have an internal voice that tells us that relationships, in one way or another, will impact us forever. Family has a life-long effect, especially when we try to ignore family experiences and pretend we can just start all over again when we get move out of the house, or we get married.

But what if Jesus came to show us what "family" really was meant to be? Starting with our heavenly Father, showing us what it means to love each other like true brothers and sisters and, yes, even earthly family and marriage that gives us a leg-up instead of a knock-down. All that was part of Jesus' mission here on earth. What if life really is all about learning to be *Jesus Family*?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think about some popular movies, TV shows, songs, and websites. Based on what you are seeing and reading, what are some current rules in our culture regarding love, sex, dating, family, and relationships? Which of them do you agree with? Disagree?
2. Dwain says that, "everybody would love a love that lasts forever." What does that mean? Do you think it's true?
3. What does "The present will be your past, which will be present in your future" mean? How does it apply to family? How about dating? How have you seen this play out in your life?
4. **Read Luke 2:41-52 together.** What is encouraging to you about this story? What is challenging?
 - a. At this early age, what does Jesus' view about family seem to be?
 - b. What is the picture of God the Father here?
 - c. What do you think we are supposed to take from this story regarding our families and our relationships?
5. **Read 2 John 1-2.** What do you think it means to "love in the truth"? How can your group help and encourage you, and how can you help and encourage others to do that in your relationships together, in your church family, and beyond?

MOVING FORWARD

If you knew for sure that what you do now in your relationships will live forever, how would that change the way you treat the people of your life? That's a powerful question. One that has the ability to effect how we see each other, hear each other, and value each other.

Make it your prayer and mission over the 4 remaining weeks of this conversation called *Jesus Family*, to ask that question everyday. Then, at the end of that time, look back and see if anything is different in your relationships.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"...some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

*To hear this message again or others from Eastridge Church, find them at www.eastridgechurch.grow/grow/sermons.

As Long As We Both Shall Live

Luke 2:41-52; 2 John 1-2