

GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

SEATS AT THE DINNER TABLE: Psalm 128 & The Godly Home

SERIES THEME//

In this series, we'll examine the biblical vision for family and the godly home as we take an expositional walk through Psalm 128, looking at each of the people seated around the family dinner table.

SERMON; THE FAITHFUL HUSBAND | PSALM 128

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

SERMON THEME//

Not only is the husband the head of the household, he is the standard bearer for a life of faith and integrity. In this sermon, we'll examine how "the man of the house" is supposed to love and lead his family in obedience to God and how each person in his home is to live the life of faith as exemplified in him. We'll also see what it's like when the husband/father isn't present or isn't living into his role.

LEADER//

Acknowledge up front some ground rule. 1) Give space for everyone to share and interact. 2) Keep an atmosphere where everyone is comfortable to share not just their answers, but their lives and faith. 3) Challenge everyone to keep discussion away from the quality of the sermon and focus on the content, particularly as it relates to what God would have us do in our lives with it.

OPENING UP//

Start with prayer

Start the discussion

1. What were your initial impressions when Peace announced this sermon series?
2. What are the dangers of doing a sermon series on family?
3. Why should a church be preaching on family?
4. What do you hope the church will glean from this sermon series?

DIGGING DEEPER//

- Being by reading this passage out loud.



PSALM 128 (ESV)

A Song of Ascents.

128 Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in his ways!

² You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.

³ Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.

⁴ Behold, thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the Lord.

⁵ The Lord bless you from Zion!
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life!

⁶ May you see your children's children!
Peace be upon Israel!

- As we read this Psalm, what about this passage stands out to you as counter-cultural or uniquely inspiring?

SERMON DISCUSSION VIDEO//

- As you watch the sermon discussion video, take note of what you found intriguing, insightful, and challenging as you consider how to take the *Word preached* and make it the *Word lived*.

DISCUSS THE SERMON//

LEADER//

While a fair amount of processing is necessary and helpful, remember that the point of this discussion is to take the *Word preached* and consider how to make it the *Word lived*. Have a large amount of time be spent on taking God's Word and applying it to our lives.

IMPORTANT TIP: Take the questions from "What do you think about this?" to "So how does that play out in your day-to-day?"



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- Were there any of Pastor Ryan's thoughts from this discussion video that stuck out to you or struck a chord with you?
- The opening section of the sermon was "From the Family Bible"
 - Does your family have a family Bible that you read from? And if so, how often do you read from it as a family?
- The first three points for the faithful husband were:
 1. Your HEART is a TEMPLE that you are CONCEDING
 2. Your HOME is a GARDEN that you are CULTIVATING
 3. Your HERITAGE is a CITY that you are CONSTRUCTING
 - a. How are each of these going to be integrated into your life?
- Pastor Ryan called out three types of husbands who don't follow the Biblical model: The Mule, the Manager, and the Mechanic. Which do you fall prey to being more like?
- How can wives help their husbands be more Christ-like? What can they do or encourage him to do in his pursuit of being a Biblical husband?
- Pastor Ryan remarked on the husband's work life a couple times.
 - How easy is it for you to not just be Christ-like at work, but openly speak about your faith in Jesus (when appropriate) to others?
 - What's the proper way to do this... what's the wrong way to do this?
- Knowing that Jesus is the only truly perfectly faithful husband, how does this drive you to love Jesus more, want to follow him more earnestly, and/or worship him more fully?

CLOSE IN PRAYER//

LEADER//

As you close in prayer, take some time to receive prayer requests from your group. Try to gather a number of these.

Then, take the time to pray over two specific areas (and in order to facilitate a deeper sense of community, encourage everyone to pray.)

1. First, your time of prayer should be a time of lifting up each other's needs and prayer requests to the Lord.
2. Second, your growth group should pray to thank God for his Word and ask for his help as you seek to be *doers* of the Word and not hearers only.

