

Yours, Mine & Ours

What's A Family For? (Week 1)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Ideas

Families thrive when their story is a continuation of God's story.

Key Scriptures

As for you, be fruitful and multiply; Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it. Genesis 9:7

So Joshua called together the twelve men he had chosen—one from each of the tribes of Israel. He told them, "Go into the middle of the Jordan, in front of the Ark of the Lord your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder—twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' Then you can tell them, 'They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the Lord's Covenant went across.' These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever." Joshua 4:4-7

These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Deuteronomy 6:1-2

And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching. Titus 2:7

Families are for:

1. Physical procreation.
2. Spiritual continuation.

God's story continues when we:

- Share God's story with words.
- Model God's story in action.

Start talking.

- What is one formative story from your family?
- How does that story connect to God's story?

Start thinking.

- Read Genesis 9:7. "Fruitful" means to increase in numbers. "Multiply" is about becoming great. Why the distinction between the two? How do those terms describe the purpose of a family?
- Read Joshua 4:4-7. What role did storytelling have for the families of Israel?
- Read Deuteronomy 6:1-2. Who of the family of Israel stood to benefit from the specific teaching of God's word?
- Read Titus 2:7. What is the connection between "doing good works" and integrity?

Start sharing.

- How is the story you're living a continuation of God's story?
- In what ways do your words and actions align? How are they disconnected?

Start doing.

- Try the "high and low" exercise Joel mentioned with those you do life with a couple times this week. Download the YouVersion Bible App and share the verse of the day.
- Describe one way you can model God's story for the next generation this week.

Closing prayer.

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me and welcoming me into your family. Give me the courage to share the story of your great love and to faithfully model that love to the next generation.