

# Practice This

## The Family (Week 3)

### LifeNotes

## TALK IT OVER

### Main Idea

The Family of God fulfills our joy.

### Key Scriptures

*That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. 1 John 1:1-4 ESV*

*These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John 15:11-13 ESV*

*But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:17 ESV*

### **Why does the family of God fulfill our joy?**

1. It makes Jesus tangible.
2. It heals the hurting.
3. It kills the consumer in us.

### Start talking.

- What era of music did you grow up with? What is your favorite band of all time?
- If you had 24 hours to live, how would you spend them?

### Start thinking.

- Read John 15:11-13 and Hebrews 12:1-2. Why do you think fellowship is so closely tied to joy for Jesus?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:27. What is the significance of the Church being the body of Christ?
- Pastor Ryan said the family of God kills the consumer in us. How does this happen?

### Start sharing.

- How has the family of God made the truths found in Scripture come alive for you? Would you be willing to share a story of how this has worked out in your life?
- Why are you sometimes reluctant to engage with others? Fear? Guilt? Shame? Selfishness? Something else?

### Start doing.

- What does your next step look like at Harbor? Where and how is God calling you to move towards others?
- What would you have added or subtracted to the message Pastor Ryan shared?

### Closing prayer.

Father, thank you for the gift of family. Thank you for the gift of your love, which is shown to us through Jesus and by the Church. Help us, in the way that we live in community with one another, make you tangible in the lives of others. We pray that Harbor would be a family that represents you well and shows others the amazing love of Jesus.