

Family Matters

Big Idea: As much as God loves the family He already has, His heart goes out to the ends of the earth to bring in the rest of His global family. His people must do the same because family matters!

Notice the consistent theme of Scripture:

- Adam and Eve – The first family
And God blessed them. And God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. Genesis 1:28a
- Noah – Another first
And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. Genesis 9:1
- Nimrod was a Nimrod! – The first dispersion
Let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth....There the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.
Genesis 11:4b,9b
- Abraham and Sarah - In the family way
Now the Lord said to Abram, Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing...in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Genesis 12:1-3
- The Deportation – The second dispersion
I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries. Ezekiel 36:19a
- The Church Family – The great co-mission
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19
But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8
- The Church Persecuted – The third dispersion
And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria. Acts 8:1
- Mission Accomplished – The end result
And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. Matthew 24:14
- The Ultimate Family Gathering
After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. Revelation 7:9a

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
Ephesians 3:14

Our family matters. Today we'll do some family bonding by baptizing believers, receiving members, and sharing in communion. But we must also remember we are not here to make a name for ourselves. The name we represent compels us to keep moving out to reach our world for Him.