



WE BELONG: LIVING AS GOD'S FAMILY

EPHESIANS 2:19-22



SMALL GROUP *DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*

- 1) What does it personally mean to you that you are part of “God’s family”?
- 2) Which area of the F.A.M.I.L.Y. application do you find most challenging? Why?
- 3) What is one practical step you can take to deepen your connection in church?



EPHESIANS 2:19-22 (ESV)

¹⁹ So then **you** are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

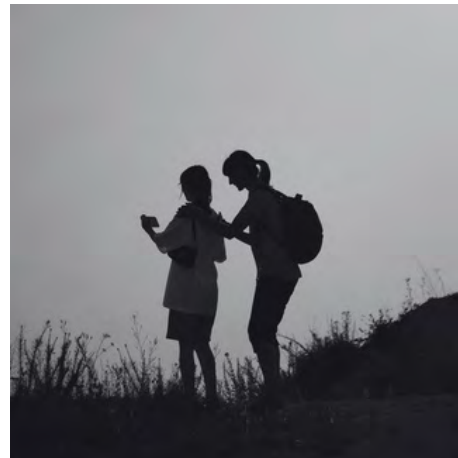


3 DEFINING MARKS OF GOD'S FAMILY



1) Position

*We are **adopted** by our Father in heaven
(v19)*



2) Posture

*We are **attached** to one another
(vv 21-22)*



3) Purpose

*We are **appointed** a temple & dwelling place
(vv21-22)*



POSITION

*We are **adopted** by our Father in heaven (v19)*

- *“You are no longer strangers and aliens... but members of the household of God.”*
- We are members of God’s family.
- You are a child of God!
- Romans 8:15; 1 John 3:1
- God says, “You are mine. I will never let you go!”
- Knowing to Whom you belong, live as you belong to the One!



POSTURE

We are **attached** to one another (v19)

- We are joined together, built together, growing together, in Christ.
- We are connected.
- *“if one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.”* 1 Corinthians 12:26 (ESV)
- *“not neglecting to meet together..”* Hebrews 10:24–25 (ESV)
- Are you attending OR are you connecting? Are you present OR are you known? Are you serving BUT still isolated?



PURPOSE

*We are **appointed** a holy temple and dwelling place
(vv21-22)*

- Set apart for God's wondrous work in revealing His character
- Church is not just about us. It is about God's presence and God's mission in Christ.
- We are God's mirror and witness to the world.
- When we relate well we reflect God well (Acts 2:42-47, John 13:35)



APPLICATION:

F.A.M.I.L.Y

- **Forgive Freely**
(Colossians 3:13)
- **Accept Deeply**
(Romans 15:7)
- **Meet Regularly**
(Hebrews 10:25)
- **Intend Intentionally**
(Philippians 2:4)
- **Love Sacrificially**
(Galatians 5:13)
- **Yield to the Spirit**
(Ephesians 4:3)

F.A.M.I.L.Y

FORGIVE FREELY (COLOSSIANS 3:13)

- Let go of offenses quickly (Matthew 6:14-15).
- Don't keep score. Extend grace.

F.A.M.I.L.Y

FORGIVE FREELY (COLOSSIANS 3:13)

- Let go of offenses quickly (Matthew 6:14-15).
- Don't keep score. Extend grace.

ACCCEPT DEEPLY (ROMANS 15:7)

- Open your heart.
- Go beyond comfort & convenience. Extend a warm welcome.

F.A.M.I.L.Y

FORGIVE FREELY (COLOSSIANS 3:13)

- Let go of offenses quickly (Matthew 6:14-15).
- Don't keep score. Extend grace.

ACEPT DEEPLY (ROMANS 15:7)

- Open your heart.
- Go beyond comfort & convenience. Extend a warm welcome.

MEET REGULARLY (HEBREWS 10:25)

- Prioritise gathering.
- Belong to a group.



WEAKER SOCIAL TIES ARE LINKED TO AN INCREASED DEMENTIA RISK

National Geographic, 19 Nov 2025

“People who had good social connections had half the rate of dementia compared to people who had poor social connections.”

Suraj Samtani

Clinical psychologist,

Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing

University of New South Wales in Australia

F.A.M.I.L.Y

INVEST INTENTIONALLY (PHILIPPIANS 2:4)

- Create connection, don't wait for it.
- Build relationships intentionally.

F.A.M.I.L.Y

INVEST INTENTIONALLY (PHILIPPIANS 2:4)

- Create connection, don't wait for it.
- Build relationships intentionally.

LOVE SACRIFICIALLY (GALATIANS 5:13)

- Serve one another
- Support one another

F.A.M.I.L.Y

INVEST INTENTIONALLY (PHILIPPIANS 2:4)

- Create connection, don't wait for it.
- Build relationships intentionally.

LOVE SACRIFICIALLY (GALATIANS 5:13)

- Serve one another
- Support one another

YIELD TO THE SPIRIT (EPHESIANS 4:3)

- Unity is Spirit empowered
- Pray for unity

■ GEORGE BARNNA RESEARCH GROUP



1) Quality of Sermons/Preaching (83%)

2) Feeling Welcomed by Leaders/Members (79%)

3) Style of Services (74%)

4) Location (70%)

**5) Children's Programs/Education
(56% overall, 65% for parents)**

6) Mutual Care and Concern (High importance)

CHALLENGE



This week, be intentional to practice ONE letter of F.A.M.I.L.Y.:

- *TAKE ONE STEP.*
- *REACH OUT.*
- *FORGIVE.*
- *INVITE.*
- *CONNECT.*
- *PRAY.*



PRAAYER ↻ RESPONSE

