

9-27-26 Family - Into the Family - Study Guide

Overview

This is the closing message of the family series. After looking at our relationship with God, how we treat our own households, and how our phones shape family life, the focus turns outward: helping others *get into* the family.

God places the lonely in families (Psalm 68:6). The church is meant to be that family when earthly families break. The Gospel is not only forgiveness; it is Jesus saving us from our mess, inviting us into His family, and sharing His Father and His Kingdom with us (John 1:10–12; Luke 12:31–32).

Three questions drive the message:

1. Is the Gospel really *good news* to you?
2. Did Jesus really change your life?
3. Then why not share it?

The best case for Christ is rarely a polished argument. It is your story of what He has actually done in you.

Reflection Questions

- On a scale of 1–10, how readily do you share your faith? What holds the number where it is?
- When you think about the Gospel, does it feel like good news, just “news,” or sometimes like bad news (new responsibility, loss of control)?
- Has Jesus actually changed you—or have you mainly modified some behavior while keeping the old nature in charge?
- Who in your life needs family more than they need another lecture? What would it look like to invite them in the way you were invited?
- If there are hundreds of people in this church, there are hundreds of versions of the Gospel sitting in the room. What is *yours*?

Main Points

God’s heart is to put the lonely in families.

Psalm 68:6. The church family exists, in part, as backup when blood family fails. Inviting people in is part of our heritage.

The Gospel is an invitation into the family.

- We rebelled. Jesus lived sinlessly, died in our place, and rose.
- All who believe and receive Him are given the right to become children of God (John 1:12).
- The Father delights to give us the Kingdom (Luke 12:32). He takes great delight in us and rejoices over us with singing (Zephaniah 3:17).

If it is good news, you talk about it.

The woman at the well left her jar and ran to the village: “Come and see” (John 4:28–29). When something is truly good, we become witnesses. Social media proves we already know how to tell people about a meal. The question is whether the Gospel tastes that good.

Heart Change is the difference between Judas and Peter.

Both were chosen, both failed, both felt regret. Judas had calculated treachery and remorse without repentance. Peter had impulsive failure, godly sorrow, and restoration. One life ended in despair; the other became a rock who preached Christ. Filling a pew and doing the stuff is not the same as being

transformed. Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45).

Your story is the most transferable Gospel you have.

Evangelism is less about cold conversations in Walmart and more about relational moments where you tell what God has done. Taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8)—but people cannot taste what is never put on the menu. “Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story” (Psalm 107:2). The woman at the well’s messy story led an entire village to Jesus (John 4:39–42).

Application

- If you have never taken Alpha, sign up for the next session. It exists because many believers believe the Gospel but do not know how to articulate it.
- Identify “The One”—one person you are asking God to bring into the family before year’s end. Pray for them by name. Look for a relational moment, not a speech.
- Write your story in three short movements: what it was like, what Jesus did, what it is like now. Practice saying it out loud in two minutes.
- Invite someone into *your* family first (a meal, a Sunday, a ride, a place to stay if that is wise and safe). The invitation to God’s family often travels on the same road.
- If you have never confessed Jesus as Lord, do it. A simple prayer is enough: “Jesus, I confess You as Lord. I believe You died and rose again. I repent of my sins. Save me.”

Group Discussion Prompts

1. Jason’s parents were known for taking people in. What did “family” look like in the home you grew up in—open door or closed? How has that shaped how you treat people now?
2. Read John 1:10–12 and Luke 12:31–32 together. How does seeing the Gospel as *adoption into a family* change the way you talk about it?
3. The BBQ story and the woman at the well both make the same point. When have you talked freely about something you loved? Why is the Gospel harder to talk about than that?
4. Judas vs. Peter: Where do you see yourself more honestly—behavior modification or real surrender? What would “coming to Jesus” look like for you this week (John 6:35, 37)?
5. “You don’t have a testimony to be hidden.” What part of your story feels too messy or too ordinary to share? What would courage look like if God asked you to put it on the table?
6. Who is “The One” for you right now? How can this group pray specifically for that person and for your next step with them?

Prayer: Thank God that He places the lonely in families. Ask for courage to speak from the heart so that when we share what He has done in us, others taste and see that the Lord is good.