SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of May 1-7, 2022 "THE SMART FAMILY"

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What causes you to lose sleep and rest lately?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Psalms 127.

- 1. In Psalms 127, Solomon uses the word "vain" three times. Name at least 3 synonyms of the word "vain." Take a moment to consider the connection between your life and "vanity." What areas in life today do you think people are living in vain?
- 2. The sermon reminds us that only God can ultimately build a godly home (v.1). What characteristics do you believe distinguishes a home whose builder is the Lord?
- 3. Is verse 2 advocating laziness? What is the balance between resting in God and working hard? Do you find that balance in your life? Which side of the spectrum (laziness vs workaholic) do you tend to fall?
- 4. Look at Psalm 127:3. What does it say about children from God's perspective? Do people always view children as a blessing and a reward in our culture? Why do you think are there couples today who do not want to have kids?
- 5. Read Psalm 127:4-5. Who are the arrows and the warrior being referred to? What unique characteristics do arrows have? How is raising up a generation of arrows who are on fire for Jesus the greatest hope we have for an upside down world?
- 6. How should parents balance grace with discipline in training up their children? For the singles, what are some practical ways you can help in building up the next generation?

7. What does John 14:15 and 1 John 5:3 say about obedience and love? Read Ephesians 6:1-3 and Colossians 3:20. How is obedience to parents part of a child's obligation to Christ? What are specific ways that you honor your parents?

8. NEXT STEPS

"God is the designer of the home. He is the divine Architect. And that's important in any home and in any relationship."

- □ I will meditate on Psalm 127 this week.
- (Parent) I will look to God as the divine architect of my home and for the blessing of parenthood.
- □ (Children) I will obey and honor my parents.
- □ I will consistently make God a part of every aspect of my life.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- □ Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to <u>pray for one another</u>. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for humility as we build our homes
- Pray for a consistent fellowship with Jesus.
- Pray for reconciliation within family members.
- · Take the time to pray for the upcoming elections and for peace.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort to those who were greatly affected by the recent typhoon.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

- May 2 Psalms 127
- May 3 Isaiah 1:18-20
- May 4 Proverbs 24:3-7
- May 5 Genesis 25:17-20
- May 6 Ecclesiastes 2:1-11
- May 7 Luke 2:41-52
- May 8 Deuteronomy 6:1-9