



SESSION 7: CHURCH AND PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP



IN THIS SESSION

We will conclude our Study by examining the ideal function of the local church as it partners with parents in discipling the family. This exploration will begin with the vision of the church as the household of God and then look to apply that portrait to unique family contexts.



KEY PASSAGES

- **Ephesians 2:19-22** 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.
- **Galatians 6:9-10** ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.



DISCUSS

- How does the reality of your children having peer influences impact the way you approach parenting? Do you tend to be overprotective with outside influences on your children or do you feel you might not be concerned enough with these things? Why do you think this is the case?
- Use the following question to take inventory of your common, unified direction as a family: Where are you heading together and how are you personally leading your family in that direction? In what ways do you think your local church could be a complementary catalyst to the direction you desire to take your family? What implications do your answers have on your present level of connectedness and involvement in your local church?
- In Session 1, you were encouraged to write down your goals and expectations for this Study. As you revisit those thoughts, where have you already seen a difference in your family relationships? What are the rhythms you've implemented that you hope will bear fruit? Consider sharing your responses with the person or group with whom you are taking this Study and commit to pray specifically for each other as you do.



PRAY

- Pray that God would continue to encourage you to “buy in” to the things He has placed on your heart during this study to implement in the discipling of your family. Even as you do this, thank Him for the fresh vision and insights you've received as a

result of going through *Family Disciple-making*! Finally, take a few moments to pray specifically for every member of your family.