



BIG IDEA

“Gateway Church exists to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ. And specifically, we’re making disciples who are part of a faith family. Who understand what it means to be part of this family, that there are characteristics and expectations of our family members, and who are blessed by receiving the benefits of being part of this family.”

THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON

1. Consider sharing what your family experience was like growing up? This is a great time to practice both vulnerability and sensitivity.

Read: 1 Timothy 5:1-2

2. How does this passage speak to you? How might our culture respond to this instruction? What difference would it make if we embraced this teaching as a church family?
3. Pastor Josh insisted that the older men in our church family view themselves as spiritual fathers to the younger men. Likewise, older women should view themselves as spiritual mothers to the younger women. How are your relationships with those who are younger and less spiritually mature than you and with those who are older and more spiritually mature?

Read: Romans 12:15

4. Josh quoted a book called *The Compelling Community* which shared an example of this verse being carried out when a church member showed up for a wedding of another member they didn’t know very well. What are your thoughts about this? Discuss some other real-life examples of how this radical idea can be lived out in our church family?
5. Why is church membership important? Why might someone push back on the idea of church membership? Is this challenging for you personally? How come?
6. How would you describe the current dynamic of our church body as it relates to being a family? What do we do well? What needs some work?
7. Share personal insights, commitments, or action items inspired by the sermon and the discussion. In other words, how will you respond to the message this week?

PERSONAL REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

1. What has God shown you as you studied his word this week?
2. Why is there such value in reading and understanding the scriptures we looked at this week?
3. What points in the message encouraged you and gave you hope?
4. How will you personally apply what you learned from the sermon to your life?

DEEPER

Pray: Ask God to continue to transform Gateway Church into the family that he desires us be.

Read: Acts 2, it records the early Christian community, highlighting their unity, devotion, and mutual care as a family.

Write: Take time to write down your thoughts and insights from the sermon this week. Keeping a journal is just one more tool that you can use to track what God is showing you in your walk with him. Consider writing in questions for the podcast on the Gateway Church app.

Sing: Listen to the worship songs from Sunday throughout the week. Look up the lyrics to each song and spend some time reading them as well.

Memorize: 1 Timothy 5:1-2

Love: Disciple the younger generation in our church family and show them what it means to live in a manner worthy of the calling to which they have been called.