

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **AS FOR ME & MY HOUSE**

Message: **Part 1 – Picture Perfect**

April 8, 2018



Connect & Pray (25min)

***Icebreaker:** Without ‘embarrassing’ anyone (other than yourself perhaps) answer these 2 Questions.

1. What is one of your Favorite Movies or TV Shows about Family?
2. Do you have any “Awkward Family Photo Moments” that you can share? Describe the scenario...
3. What is 1 Funny Fact about your Family?

***Opening Prayer:** Let’s begin our time together with Praise & Thanks to GOD. [Use short sentence prayers]

DECLARE – (3min)

*JESUS, because You are _____.

THANKFUL – (5min)

*FATHER GOD, I’m thankful for My Family...

*FATHER GOD, I’m thankful for Your Family (The Church)...

Sunday Message Feedback (45min)

***Speaker:** Pastor Shawn Vandop.

***DISCLAIMER for this Series:** The Mission of Main Street Church is Helping People Experience Wholeness in Christ; Wholeness in our own lives and our families. The content of this series is important and personal for everyone. Please be considerate and wise when it comes to sharing and responding to personal/family information and stories. e.g. Avoid embarrassing your spouse or children... Consider if what you’re about to share is gossip or slander before sharing.

1. **Message Feedback:** What is one thing that jumped out to you from Sunday’s Message?
2. When you think of a “Perfect Family” what kind of picture comes to mind?
How would you describe a perfect family? Discuss.
3. Can you think of a Perfect Family in Scripture? Do you think Jesus had a perfect family?
Do you think there is such a thing as a perfect family? Why/Why not?
4. When it comes to family Pastor Shawn said that **“Instead of looking for the perfect picture of family I want to challenge you to look at the big picture for your family!”** Why is this so important?
5. **READ [Genesis 37:18-36](#)**
 - a. If you know the story of Joseph what were some of the things that made his family so dysfunctional?
Make a list:

b. Joseph ended up being sold by his brothers and things went from bad to worse when he was falsely accused of rape by his master's wife (see [Genesis 39:1-18](#)). Joseph's family dynamics were a mess but if you know the story Joseph perseveres and ends up second in charge of all of Egypt.

*How do you think the principle that Shawn shared ("Instead of looking for the perfect picture of family I want to challenge you to look at the big picture for your family!") played out in Joseph's life?

6. Would you, or do you, ever describe your family as Dysfunctional? Why/why not?

7. ***Jesus is Stronger than Samson, Wiser than Solomon, and more Devoted than David – and in Him, we help.***

a. JESUS knows and loves you and your family more than anyone. If JESUS were to call your family to a family meeting how do you think He might encourage and challenge you?

b. When it comes to your family what could change if you began to see the BIG PICTURE rather than the PERFECT PICTURE? How could it change your parenting, your communication with your spouse, your finances, your home, etc...? Discuss.

Application & Prayer (15min)

- Read [Joshua 24:14-15](#)

*If you are willing to make this declaration as well (As for me and my house we will serve the Lord) what do you need to do to make it stick?

- Read [Joshua 24:16-28](#)

*Are there any idols in your life that you need to throw away?

*What "perfect picture" is holding you back from seeing the "big picture" for your family?

- **PRAY:** God Loves You & Your Family!

In groups of 3-4 or Men & Women.

*In response to our Discussion how can we Pray for you personally?

*Pray for one another and each other's families.

- **CHALLENGE:** This series is a great reminder/opportunity for us to apply one of our **2018 Prayer Goals**.

GOD - shape and grow my character in 2018 by helping me be more intentional in practicing the spiritual disciplines of Prayer, Bible Reading & Journaling. How might this change you & your family?

Consider your personal plan for time with GOD for April (when, where & what you'll read/pray through...).

Announcements

SET FREE Retreat

April 20&21. Friday 5:30pm-9pm / Saturday 9am-7pm. \$40/person.

Register Online: www.mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free

MAIN STREET WOMEN: *Wonder Weekend*

Fri/Sat April 27&28.

PRAYER SUMMIT

Sun. April 29. 6pm-7:30pm. Main Street Auditorium. *Worship – Prayer – Communion.*

MAIN STREET MEN: *MAN BREAKFAST*

Sat. May 5. 9am. Main Street Church - Conference Hall. Tickets - \$5

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. June 3. During the Morning Services. Info & Registration - www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

EXPLORE – Resources to consider on FAMILY.

Scripture Search: http://www.openbible.info/topics/family_love . www.gotquestions.org/family-problems.html

Websites:

<http://www.therenewedfamily.com> / <https://www.focusonthefamily.ca> / <https://www.familylifecanada.com>
<https://fiercemarriage.com> / <https://www.youandmeforever.org> / <https://www.lesandleslie.com>
<https://www.desiringgod.org/topics/marriage> / <http://www.iamsecond.com/struggles/marriage>
<https://www.ibelieve.com/relationships/25-best-christian-marriage-resources-to-help-your-marriage-thrive.html>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/oneminuteapologist/search?query=family>

Books: (available on Amazon.ca, ChristianBook.com, Christian Bookstores)

[*Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family.*](#) Paul David Tripp.

[*Relationships: A Mess Worth Making.*](#) Paul David Tripp & Timothy S. Lane.

[*What Did You Expect?: Redeeming the Realities of Marriage.*](#) Paul David Tripp.

[*Sacred Marriage: What if God Designed Marriage Make Us Holy More Than to Make Us Happy?*](#) Gary Thomas.

[*You And Me Forever: Marriage in Light of Eternity.*](#) Francis & Lisa Chan.

[*The Meaning of Marriage: Facing the Complexities of Commitment with the Wisdom of God.*](#) Timothy Keller.

[*Faith Begins at Home.*](#) Mark Holmen.

[*Talking With Your Kids About God.*](#) Natasha Crain.

[*Books by Authors Les & Leslie Parrott. \(Marriage, Communication\)*](#)

[*Books by Author Gary Chapman \(The Five Loves...\)*](#)

[*Books by Authors Henry Cloud & John Townsend \(Boundaries...\)*](#)

[*The Four Loves.*](#) C.S. Lewis.

[*The Principle of the Path: How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be.*](#) Andy Stanley.

[*Love & Respect in the Family: The Respect Parents Desire; The Love Children Need.*](#) Dr. Emmerson Eggerichs.