



MODERN
family

Ecclesiology 101

Church (*ecclesia*) = a **gathering together** of a people with a purpose.

The Church is also described in these ways:

1. Nation
2. Race
3. Body
4. Bride
5. Temple
6. **Family**

The Church as Family

Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 10:28-31; 1 Timothy 5:1-2

- Jesus describes His family as his followers: those who put their faith in Jesus, and apply His words to their lives
- Following Jesus means the quantity and quality of our family will increase, primarily through participation in the family of the church

Are we living out this vision of community; being a spiritual, yet real family?

How to Connect to my Spiritual Family

- Join a Small Group ([.winklermb.com/ministries/groups](http://winklermb.com/ministries/groups))
- Spend time with someone in your Small Group outside of group time
- Do lunch **TODAY** with someone you don't know very well



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SMALL GROUP Discussion Questions

Appetizer

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. What is/was your favourite show about families? Why?

Entree

1. Read **1 Timothy 5:1-8**
2. What would it look like to treat older Christians as your parents (or younger Christians as your children)? How, specifically, can you apply this in your own life?
3. Treating adult peers like brothers and sisters is our default setting as Christians. What are some ways this basic relational principle affects your relationships within the Church?
4. How does this passage work together with **Matthew 12:46-50** to show us how we ought to treat our spiritual family, without neglecting our biological family?

Dessert

Break into groups of 3-4 and discuss the following questions with each other.

1. Use this time to discuss our "next steps" this week. Talk about your plan(or what you've already done) to go beyond Home Church to actively love another brother and sister as family. Remember, if possible, to make your goal to at least share a meal together.



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