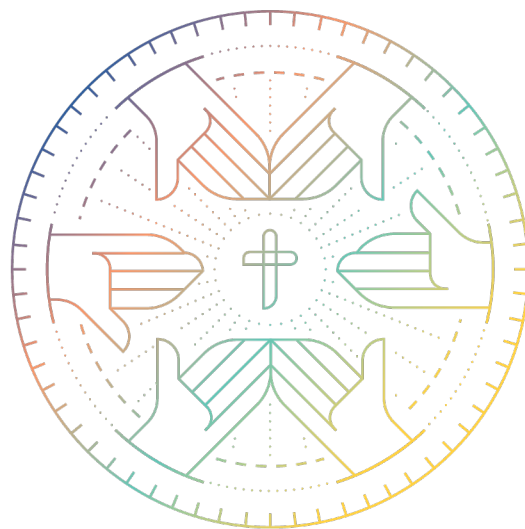


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



SMALL GROUP GUIDE

The Playbook: “How to Build a Strong Family”

Scripture Focus: Psalm 127

ICEBREAKER

What is one tradition, habit, or value from your family growing up that you are thankful for?

When you think about a “strong family,” what qualities come to mind?

INTRODUCTION

Every family is building something. Whether you are married or single, raising children, living in an empty nest, or navigating complicated family relationships, the choices we make today shape the people closest to us. Psalm 127 reminds us that our best efforts are not enough on their own: “Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.” A strong family isn’t a perfect family—it is one that continually allows God to shape its priorities, relationships, decisions, and direction.

What stood out to you most from this week’s message?

INTO THE WORD

Read Psalm 127:1–2, Proverbs 3:5–6, and Matthew 7:24–27. Psalm 127 says that unless the Lord builds the house, our work is ultimately in vain. What does it practically look like to build your family and home on the foundation of God? What are some signs that we may be relying more on our own wisdom, effort, or control than on God?

Read Psalm 127:2, Ephesians 4:2–3, Colossians 3:12–14, and 1 Corinthians 13:4–7. What attitudes and practices in these passages contribute to healthy family relationships? Which one comes most naturally to you, and which one is most difficult? How can choosing to love through conflict strengthen a family rather than allowing conflict to divide it?

Read Psalm 127:3–5, Deuteronomy 6:4–9, and Psalm 78:4–7. What do these passages teach us about how faith is passed from one generation to the next? Why do you think modeling faith can be more influential than simply teaching children what to believe? Whether or not you are currently raising children, who is part of the next generation that you have an opportunity to influence?

EMBRACE AND EMBODY

Building a strong family means:

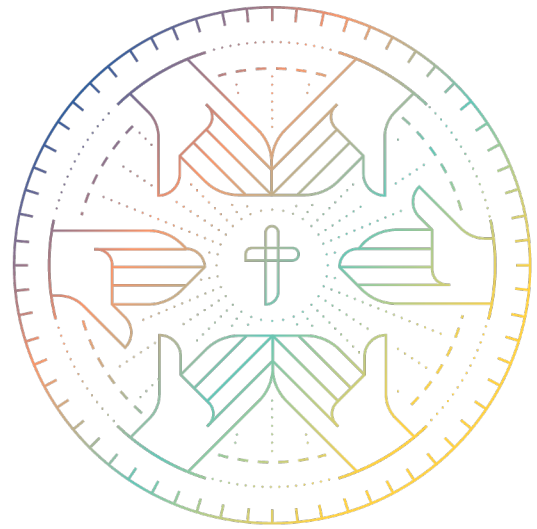
- Making God the foundation of your home and relationships.
- Allowing your faith to shape the ordinary rhythms of family life.
- Choosing love, forgiveness, and unity even when relationships are difficult.
- Intentionally passing faith to the next generation.
- Protecting your family from distractions and influences that pull it away from God.

As a group, discuss the following questions:

- If someone observed the rhythms of your home for a week, what would they conclude matters most to you or your family? What, if anything, would you want to change?

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- What is one relationship in your family where God may be asking you to choose forgiveness, humility, or intentional investment?
- What kind of spiritual legacy do you hope your life leaves for the next generation? What are you doing today that is helping build that legacy?

TAKE YOUR NEXT RIGHT STEP

(Prayerfully consider one of the following next steps)

- **Seek God Daily:** Begin each day this week by praying, “God, build my home and relationships Your way.” Ask Him to show you one area where you need His wisdom or direction.
- **Build Deep Relationships:** Choose one family relationship that needs intentional investment. Have a meaningful conversation, apologize, forgive, encourage, or simply spend uninterrupted time together.
- **Make God Known:** Share with someone in the next generation a story of how you have personally experienced God's faithfulness.
- **Worship God:** Set aside time this week to thank God for the people He has placed in your family and entrust the things you cannot control to Him.

GROUP PRAYER PRACTICE

Give everyone a few quiet moments to reflect on this question:

“What part of my family or home do I most need to surrender to God?”

Invite group members to silently name that person, relationship, worry, or situation before God. Then pray for one another, asking God to build your homes, heal strained relationships, give wisdom to parents and grandparents, strengthen single parents and those navigating difficult family circumstances, and help each person leave a legacy of faith.

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, unless You build the house, our efforts are in vain. We invite You to shape our homes, relationships, priorities, and decisions. Give us humility when there is conflict, grace to forgive, wisdom to protect what matters most, and courage to model a genuine faith to the next generation. Help us build our lives and families through thousands of small, faithful choices that point people toward You. May our homes be places where Your peace, wisdom, and unfailing love are experienced. In Jesus' name, Amen.