

MESSAGE NEXT STEPS



TRUST RELATIONSHIPS IF YOU CAN

JUNE 20

On Father's Day, some of us celebrate, and for some of us, talking about family triggers us. Dysfunction and toxicity are far too common, but they don't have to be inevitable as we learn to navigate conflict, forgive, and chart a new path.

Work through the following questions and scriptures on your own, and get together with your running partner, life group, or friends and family to talk through what you are learning.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.) What is a good memory you have about your father, grandfather, or someone who was a father figure in your life?
- 2.) In the message, we heard, "The more we grow to trust God, the more we will be able to trust in our life because we know even if we deal with people who are not trustworthy – God can bring good out of all of our challenging circumstances." How have you experienced this in your own life?
- 3.) What stood out to you from the message today?
- 4.) Read **Genesis 1:26**, **Proverbs 27:17**, and **Jeremiah 18:5-6**. We are designed in God's image, meant to sharpen one another, and are constantly being molded into a work of art by God himself. How does knowing God has designed you for relationships, help you in your relationships with others? What is hardest about it?
- 5.) If you are married, what are areas you and your spouse are working on improving? What are some areas in which you've found healing? How did you find that healing?
- 6.) You heard that for the 4th of July we are moving church out of the building and encouraging everyone to go "be the church" in their neighborhoods and friendships. Who are the people God has placed in your life to love and serve? Do you have plans for July 4th? If so, how can you move the conversations from superficial to even spiritual? If not, what kind of meet-up could you do for neighbors and with whom would you want to partner?

KEY SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Jeremiah 18:5-6. Then the word of the Lord came to me. He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel."

DIGGING DEEPER

1.) Are you struggling with any of the relationships in your life? Remember, asking for help is a sign of maturity, not weakness. How could you reach out for help this week?

Ways to reach out for help:

- a.) We have a prayer team at Gateway, reach out and ask for prayer on a Sunday morning.
- b.) Tell someone you trust that you are struggling.
 - i.) If you are struggling in marriage ask an older couple you look up to.
 - ii.) If you are struggling in parenting ask another parent who you think is a good parent.
 - iii.) If you are struggling in a friendship or with a co-worker ask another friend who is wise.
- c.) If you don't have community with others who are following Jesus, look online at our Thrive page and join in with others in a class, event, group and begin building relationships with others who are moving toward Jesus.

Ready for your next step? Head to thrive.gatewaychurch.com to see all we have to offer.