



GROUPS
Part 2: Building a Family
Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

House, Household (*Oikieos*) = a domestic gathering, relatives under one roof, family living in proximity

[Ephesians 2:19]

*So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. **Together, we are his house, (Oikieos)***

[Ephesians 1:5, NLT]

*“His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us **into his own family** by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.”*

[1 Timothy 3:14-15, NCV]

*“I am writing to you... so you will know how to live in the family of God. **That family is the church** of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth.”*

[Romans 8:15-16, Voice]

*You see, you have not received a spirit that returns you to slavery, so you have nothing to fear. The Spirit you have received **adopts you and welcomes you into God’s own family**. That’s why we call out to Him, “Abba! Father!” as we would address a loving daddy. Through that prayer, God’s Spirit confirms in our spirits that we are His children.*

[Ephesians 2:21-22]

*We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. And in him **you too are being built together to become** a dwelling (habitation, a house) in which God lives by his Spirit.*

FATHER

OLDER BROTHER

Grace vs. **Law** (*he wanted what was fair*)

Acceptance vs. **resentment**

Looking down the road vs. **looking at his own needs**

Gratefulness vs. **complaint**

unconditional love vs. **judgement** (*justice applied*)

THREE KEYS TO BUILDING A HOUSE OF GRACE:

1. **A House (*oikeios*) with a big welcome sign** = groups and gatherings that continually send the message, 'there's a place for you here'

[Psalm 68:6]

*God places the lonely in families;
he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy.*

2. **A House (*oikeios*) of Grace** = groups and gatherings where people are not judged on where they've been or what they have done

[Romans 15:7, AMP]

Therefore, continue to accept and welcome one another, just as Christ has accepted and welcomed us to the glory of God.

3. **A House (*oikeios*) of praise** = What we've been given and whose we are will be our anthem

DISCUSSION THOUGHTS

1. What does "family" mean to you? How has your dynamic growing up affected your view of family? What are three attributes of your family that come to mind immediately?
2. How easy or difficult is it for you to commit in relationships?

3. What are you intentionally doing to reach out to the lonely or isolated? Who did that for you in the past?
4. Where have you experienced a “house of grace?”
5. Which of the three keys of a “house of grace” will you work on first for your home, group, or sphere of influence?