

# WEEK 1

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE



“Family” is a concept understood all over the world, in every country, culture, and language, but no two families are the same. We all have our unique family structures, quirks, traditions, values, problems, and dysfunctions. It’s not always easy to love our families (or even like them sometimes), but the Bible is full of guidance on how to love each other well — we just have to be willing to apply that at home. In this 4-week series, we’ll take a look at some of the lessons learned by Jesus-followers in the early days of the church, because learning how to be part of God’s family might help us learn how to be part of our own families. In God’s family, **we support each other, pray for each other, reconcile with each other, and love each other.**

### THIS WEEK

#### THE BIG IDEA

In God’s family we support each other.

#### THE BIBLE

Galatians 5:13–14 & 22-23, 6:1–3 & 9-10;  
Matthew 11:28–30

- Describe your family in one word. Now say more!
- Who do you consider your family?
- When’s the last time you blew up at your family? What burdens were you carrying that led up to that moment?
- How could your family have supported you better that day? What could you have done differently too?
- What are some of the things our family members might sometimes struggle with that we don’t know about?
- Why do you think it’s so easy for us to notice our family members’ faults? What do you think they would say about your faults?
- Instead of getting angry at a family member’s faults, what do you think would happen if we saw those problems as burdens we could help them carry?
- When you notice a family member’s faults, what would it look like to follow Paul’s instructions to *gently* help them make it right?
- Read Galatians 5:22-2. Which of these qualities do you most struggle with at home? How could that quality help you better support your family?
- This week, how can you better support one person in your family?

#### ACTIVITY

Show your "support" for each other by building a human pyramid and taking a group photo!