**SGA Sermon Discussion Questions – From May 8 2016**

**Roots and Wings – The Impact of a Godly Mother, by Pastor Matt Gaw**

This discussion has a large number of questions that can generate discussion and reflection. Use this to move yourself forward in your abilities in parenting or even discipling, mentoring and teaching others. Giving Roots and Wings is not limited to parents.

**Warm up**

1. How was your relationship with her growing up and how is your relationship now?
2. How are you like your mother in good ways and not so good ways?

**Looking in scripture**

***Colossians 2:6-8***

*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

*See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.*

What does this passage mean to you? How are you rooted and built up in him?

Being rooted and built up in Christ makes a person mature and strong in character and faith.

* Roots remind you where you’re from. Wings show you what you can become.
* Roots are the foundation that you are built upon. Roots secure us to the foundation.
* Wings are about releasing them to live who they are. Wings release us into life.

**Looking inside yourself**

1. What roots did your parents instill in your life and how did they do that?
   1. Identity - character, values, desires
   2. Faith – knowing Jesus, calling, gifts and passions
2. What do you wish they did? How could they have done that better? How could you have responded better?
3. What are common ways parents give children wings (release them to be the persons God wants them to be)?
4. How did your parents give you wings? How did giving you wings affect you positively and how did it affect you negatively?

**Have scripture look into you**

*1 Corinthians 12:6 (The Message)*

*Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits.*

Being Jesus to others and showing the glory of God, walking as the image of God is one of our primary purposes of the Christian life.

How are you made to show who God is? For each person around the table, consider how they show who God is through their character. Are they loving, compassionate, forgiving, merciful…? How do you see Christ in each other?

1. How do you show who God is to your kids (or how will you in the future)?
2. How does your mother show who God is? How is she Christ like?

Extra credit: How can you inspire her to be more like Christ and use her gifts and character to show who God is?

**Looking ahead**

1. What roots do you hope you have or will instill into your children’s lives? How do you think you’ll do this? What will come more naturally and what roots will be difficult for you?
2. What will you have difficulty in giving wings to your children? How do we learn to let go?
3. How can you pray for your mother and the mothers around you?