**In Search of a Happy Family part 1**

**Leader’s Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. Describe your family growing up. Describe your current family. Are they similar or quite different?**

**2. What do you enjoy most about your family? When’s the last time you laughed together? What was so funny?**

**3. What tends to suck the joy out of your family at times?**

**BOOK/LOOK**

**4. Read 1 Peter 3:8-12.**

**5. In 3:8, what are the 5 adjectives that describe Christ-like character: (**Be like-minded;

Be sympathetic; Be loving; Be compassionate; Be humble). **If all the family members had these character qualities, would your family happiness level go up?** (Christ-like virtues make it easier to live with you. They’ll make your family a happier place. And when your family is happier, you’ll be happier).

**6. Pastor Perry said two things on Sunday: who you are makes a memory, and what you do leaves a legacy. Do you think actions or character makes a stronger impact on children?**

**7. What actions does Peter encourage in 3:9,10? (**To bless others with positive words). **What makes that hard? (**it’s human to respond with evil or insult when we’re treated badly).

**8. What action does Peter encourage in 3:11a?**  (Turn from evil and do good). **What force within us opposes such action?** (Selfishness).

**9. What action does Peter encourage in 3:11b?** (To seek and pursue peace)

**How does Proverbs 19:11 help us with this?**

**10. What other action (3:12) might help us develop the character and do the actions that bring peace and greater happiness in a family?** (Pray for your family) **Do you think the adage - “The family that prays together stays together”** - **is true?**

**11. In what sense do we inherit the blessing that we give in a family? How is a family like an emotional bank? (**Blessing is synonymous with happiness.When we bless others, it adds to the positive emotional capital in a marriage or family relationship. It’s like making a deposit to a bank. When you say positive words, encouraging words, compliments, gratefulness, it adds capital to the family bank account. The goal is to build up the emotional, relational capital in the family bank because you inherit from that bank. Everything you’ve invested – you receive it back. You were called to bless others so that you may inherit a blessing).

**TOOK**

**12. What kind of a legacy did your parents leave you?**

**13. What kind of legacy are you trying to leave your family?**

**14. How can our prayers for our family members be part of the legacy we leave?**