**In Search of a Happy Family part 2**

**Leader’s Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. How big is the ideal family? How does your family compare to families on television and movies? Similar or quite different?**

**2. Who had the most significant influence on your spiritual life when you were growing up?**

**3. Would more money, a bigger house, or a warmer climate make your family happier?**

**BOOK/LOOK**

**4. Read Deut. 6:1-2. What do we need to do in order to enjoy long life?** (Observe all, not some, of God’s commands) **How does keeping God’s commands lead to enjoying life?**

**5.** **Read Deut. 6:4-9. What’s the most important of God’s commands?** (loving God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength.) **How does loving God lead to a happier life?**  (God is the source of every good gift. Thankful people are happier people. And God is the highest good in the universe. When we seek happiness in Him, it is the greatest happiness.)

**6. Whose responsibility is it to teach children: the church or parents?** (Primarily parents, but the church can support this role).

**7. Why don’t some parents have faith dialogues with their children?** (Not enough time, don’t know how, afraid of difficult questions). **What’s the value in talking with your children or grandchildren about faith?**

**8. At what age do you think children are most open to spiritual truth? Why does this openness change over time?**

**9. How do our parenting styles have to change as children grow up?**

**10. Were one or both of your parents believers? What did they do to pass on their faith? How do you try to have faith dialogues with your parents? Is it possible to “reverse engineer” faith – that is, to help our parents come to faith?**

**TOOK**

**11. How have you observed God working in your life or the life of your family lately?**

**12. If you were writing your spiritual autobiography, what would be the 3-5 high points or low points in your journey? Draw a line graph and then share with the group those high/low points. Where are you now?**