

Week 4: All in the Family: January 25/26, 2014 "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her" (Eph 5:25b)

How do I lead my family to be healthy church members?

1. Jesus Loves His Church.

- If I don't love the church what does Jesus see that I need to see?
- Love does.

2. How Families love the church.

- Show up.
- Pray up.
- Give up.

3. The Legacy of Loving My Family & Church.

The Fourth Pledge

I am an example-to-my-family church member.

I will lead my family to be healthy members of this church. We will worship together in our church (show up). We will pray together for our church (pray up). We will serve together in our church (give up). And we will ask Christ to help us fall deeper in love with this church because He gave His life for her.

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Small Group/Personal Reflection Questions:

- 1. What is the relationship of our immediate families and the church family? What biblical texts make this connection?
- 2. In 1Cor 12:28, Paul states that God has placed us in the church as individual members of it. How does this bring higher value to church membership? How does this connect our obedience to God with church membership?
- 3. Why is praying for the church as a family important for children to experience?
- 4. Why is unconditional love such a challenge, especially as it applies to church membership?
- 5. Why do many church members have a sense of entitlement? What does the Bible say about that? What are some things we can do in family life to correct this attitude?
- 6. In 1Cor 7, Paul explains how the example of a sole believer in a home is important in shaping a non-believing spouse's understanding faith. How can this principle be applied to children in a home?
- 7. If Jesus loves the church and gave himself up for it, why do so many Christians avoid committing themselves to love and serve the church as a member?
- 8. List 3 things that you can do this week to demonstrate to your family and others your commitment to loving the church? (as part of the quest to love the things Jesus loved).

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