

## SESSION 5 - FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

These Family Conversations are designed to help you create moments to talk about God and faith in your family. We want to encourage you to carve out a moment each week to read and discuss each Family Conversation. This could be over the dinner table, before bedtime, or whenever works best for your family. In each Family Conversation, you will find four parts.

- Scripture: Read the passage out loud, or encourage a family member to read.
- Devotion: Read this to your family.
- Conversation: Pick and choose what questions are best for your family to discuss.
- Prayer: Pray for your family, or encourage a family member to pray.

Just as a heads-up things, probably won't go as planned with your Family Conversations. Your family may interrupt, someone probably won't pay attention, and there may not be any grand spiritual moments. What matters most is that you are seeking God as a family. Faith in your family is more often caught than taught. Your family will most likely forget these devotions, but they will remember the intentionality and time together. That will set the stage for you to model faith and continue building a spiritual legacy in your family.

### SCRIPTURE:

*“Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”*

Matthew 9:35-38

### DEVOTION:

Have you ever been to a U-pick farm to pick pumpkins, apples, strawberries, etc.? Or, have you ever picked fruits or vegetables out of a garden? In Matthew 9:37, Jesus imagines the world as a giant field ready to be harvested. The only problem, there are not enough workers to harvest all the crops. When we are part of God's family, we are called to go out and be representatives of Jesus.

Think about this on a smaller scale. You are a representative of our family. The stories you share and how you act reveal the character of our family to others. The same is true for God's family. He wants to work through the Church to share the Good News of Jesus. He wants us to represent His family wherever we go. God wants to send us out to help with the harvest.

God's plan to save the world was through Jesus and the cross. God's plan to reach the world is through the Church. There is no plan B. As part of the Church, our family is called to help others know about Jesus. We are called to harvest in our backyards, neighborhoods, workplaces, cities, states, countries, and continents. Wherever we go, we go as representatives of Jesus.

When we start to realize how big this worldwide harvest is, it is a little overwhelming. The good news is that Jesus tells us where to begin. In Matthew 9:38, He says pray for the harvest and workers to be sent. What if, as a family, we began to pray for the harvest and how we can help? God may just answer our prayers by drawing more people to Him and/or using our family to reap a bountiful harvest.

### CONVERSATION:

- Have you ever picked fruits or vegetables out of a garden? If so, share a story from your experience?
- How do you think your actions and words reflect our family to others? Can you share a time when you felt proud to represent our family?
- Why do you think God chose the Church to share the Good News of Jesus to the world?
- What are some places in your life where you get to represent Jesus to others? What small steps can you take to share Jesus with others in those places?
- Jesus asked us to pray for the harvest and for more workers. How can our family start this practice together? What are some ways our family can go out and be harvesters?

### PRAYER:

Together as a family, thank God for His grace and the harvesters in your life that have led you to Him. Ask God to send more workers out into the world to harvest a spiritual crop. Finally, ask God to use your family as workers to share the Good News of Jesus.