# TYLER McKENZIE Lead Pastor



April 7th	Bible Study - Proverbs
April 14th	[Past] - Generational Brokenness
April 21st	[Past] - Generational Blessing
April 28th	[Present] - Tool #1 to unleash power of God in family relationships
	[Present] Tool #2 to unleash power of God in family relationships
May 12th	[Future] Forever Family

# Family is powerful!

- -Past? Few relationships have shaped our lives more profoundly.
- -Present? Few people demand more of us daily.
- -Future? Few metaphors better describe what the Church is forever.

Mark 3:20-21, 31-35

One time Jesus entered a house, and the crowds began to gather again. Soon He and His disciples couldn't even find time to eat. When His family heard what was happening, they tried to take Him away. "He's out of His mind," they said ...

Then Jesus' mother and brothers came to see Him. They stood outside and sent word for Him to come out and talk with them. There was a crowd sitting around Jesus, and someone said, "Your mother and your brothers are outside asking for you." Jesus replied, "Who is My mother? Who are My brothers?" Then He looked at those around Him and said, "Look, these are My mother and brothers. Anyone who does God's will is My brother and sister and mother."

# I. An Unsettling Act of Exclusion

Jesus' vision of family does not fit the cultural mold.

# 2. An Unbelievable Statement of Inclusion

Jesus' vision of family includes anyone ... even you.

#### MARK 3:33-35

Jesus replied, "Who is My mother? Who are My brothers?" Then He looked at those around Him and said, "Look, these are My mother and brothers. Anyone who does God's will is My brother and sister and mother."

# The Progressive Vision -

Dismantle the traditional family.

The Traditional Vision -

Worship the traditional family.

#### Jesus did not dismantle the traditional family.

- -Teaches Genesis 1-2 as normative
- -Honors his mother
- -Affirms the fifth command
- -Points to parental responsibility for passing down faith
- -Gives special dignity to vocation of motherhood

# Matthew 19:3-6

Some Pharisees came and tried to trap Him with this question: "Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?" "Haven't You read the Scriptures?" Jesus replied. "They record that from the beginning 'God made them male and female.' And He said, 'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.' Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together."

## JOHN 2:3

The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother told Him, "They have no more wine." "Dear woman, that's not our problem," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

But His mother told the servants, "Do whatever He tells you." ... This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was the first time Jesus revealed His glory. And His disciples believed in Him. After the wedding He went to Capernaum for a few days with His mother, His brothers, and His disciples.

#### MARK 10:19

But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.'

## Deuteronomy 6:4-9

"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

#### MATTHEW 22:36-38

"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment.

#### MATTHEW 18:5-6

"And anyone who welcomes a little child like this on My behalf is welcoming Me. But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to have a large millstone tied around your neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea."

## Jesus did not dismantle the traditional family.

- -Teaches Genesis 1-2 as normative
- -Honors his mother
- -Affirms the fifth command
- -Points to parental responsibility for passing down faith
- -Gives special dignity to vocation of motherhood

# The Progressive Vision -

Dismantle the traditional family.

The Traditional Vision -

Worship the traditional family.

# Jesus did not worship the traditional family.

- -Had no spouse, kids, or earthly father
- -Taught that commitment to family is less significant

than God

## MATTHEW 22:30

For when the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage. In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven.

And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I have come to divide people against each other! From now on families will be split apart, three in favor of Me, and two against—or two in favor and three against. 'Father will be divided against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

# Pew Research Center Survey (Nov 2018)

- -Twice as many Americans said that family was the most meaningful aspect of their lives (40%), compared to faith (20%).
- -American Christians were slightly more likely than Americans overall to list family in top spot (42%).

A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, "If you want to be My disciple, you must hate everyone else by comparison—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be My disciple.

"Worst message I have ever heard what a downer. As a matter of fact I am done with church after today's message. Telling to choose between family and jesus we'll I guess I will burn in hell before I turn my back on my family and friends. You just got your last dime from me. BAD CHOICE BOB"

The progressive vision casts a wider net than the biological family (just like Jesus), but at the expense of dismantling God's design for family, undermining parental authority, and making life about self-discovery.

The conservative vision honors God's design for family (just like Jesus), but to the point of idolizing family, relegating religion, and excluding/shaming those with non-traditional family experiences.

Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and His mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother standing there beside the disciple He loved, He said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." And He said to this disciple, "Here is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home.

# I. An Unsettling Act of Exclusion

Jesus' vision of family does not fit the cultural mold.

# 2. An Unbelievable Statement of Inclusion

Jesus' vision of family includes anyone ... even you.

#### MARK 3:33-35

Jesus replied, "Who is My mother? Who are My brothers?" Then He looked at those around him and said, "Look, these are My mother and brothers. Anyone who does God's will is My brother and sister and mother."

Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Together, we are His house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus Himself.