

Sermon Discussion Questions

Facing Family Flaws

2 Samuel 12:29-13:29

March 4, 2018

1. What was great about your parents?
2. David had to endure the consequences of his choices and he experienced “evil against [him] from [his] own household” (2 Samuel 12:11). What does Galatians 6:7-8 tell us about our own lives?
3. Chuck Swindol, a famous preacher once said, “There are two kinds of trouble a family can experience: trouble that comes from without and trouble that comes from within. Though both can be devastating for a family, the more difficult of the two is trouble from within.” Why is this statement true or not true?
 - Which of the two have you had to deal with more? Share your story.
4. If emotional intelligence is primarily learned from our parents and someone lacks it, what can be done to help them become smarter in their ability to connect on an emotional level?
 - Is there such a thing (barring a true miracle of God) as someone being beyond repair in their ability to connect with others on a healthy emotional level? Why or why not? How can we help others grow in their ability to relate to others well?
5. Dig out at least 4 different English translations of Exodus 20:5 and see if we can understand what it means that God “visits the iniquity” from one generation to the next.
 - Can you think of any sins that you can see were passed down from one generation to the next in your family history?
 - Can you identify any sins that seemed to have stopped after 3 or 4 generations?
 - Any sins you can bring before the Lord to ask for them to stop with our generation?
6. David didn’t lean toward the wrong he sensed with Absalom (2 Samuel 13:26) he leaned away. When tensions rise, or something is out of whack in some way which way do you usually lean (toward or away) and why?
7. That quote from Josh Straub, “We aren’t supposed to be perfect, but follow a God who is.” is a good one. How can we spur each other on in our lives or in our parenting (or both) to follow after our good, good Father so He will make a true difference in our lives?
 - Read Hebrews 12:4-11 and discuss how you have experienced God’s hand in your life like this passage indicates.