

MOOREBANK HAMMONDVILLE ANGLICAN CHURCH

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION

Bible Topic: Wisdom on Family from Proverbs

Discuss: who is in your family and what does family mean to you?

Read Prov. 17:6; 18:22; 19:14; 23:15

- 1) What common experience do these proverbs share about families?
- 2) When is it that we rejoice in families? Why do you think family is so able to produce such emotions?

Read Prov. 18:19; 19:13, 26; 28:7

- 3) What common experience do these proverbs share about families?
- 4) When is it that we find families painful? What are some of the ways we seek to cope with such difficulties?

Read Prov. 1:8-9; 22:6

- 5) What is our job when it comes to raising children?
- 6) What sorts of things are we to teach our kids? How might this job change as they grow older?

Read Prov. 13:24; 20:7; 23:14; 29:15

- 7) As well as explicitly teaching kids about God, life, and the world, how else are we to disciple them?
- 8) Do you think we must smack kids? Why/why not? If not, what is at the heart of these proverbs?
- 9) Why is it important to punish wrong behaviour?

Read Prov. 15:17; 17:17

- 10) What do these two proverbs tell us about the blessings of family?

Thinking it through:

- 11) God gave us families as the first and one of the most important means whereby we learn how to live. Why do you think families have such an important role?
- 12) What are the practices we need to have in our families for them to be the best they can be?
- 13) We are all members of another family – the family of God. How do the principles we have learnt about in Proverbs apply to this family?

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SERMON OUTLINE – 14th October 2018

Speaker: Stephen Gilmour

Bible Topic: Wisdom on Family from Proverbs

The difficulty of speaking on family

1. Families are the best of times and the worst of times

- Prov. 17:6** Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.
- Prov. 18:22** He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD.
- Prov. 19:14** House and wealth are inherited from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the LORD.
- Prov. 23:15** My son, if your heart is wise, my heart too will be glad.
- Prov. 18:19** A brother offended is more unyielding than a strong city, and quarreling is like the bars of a castle.
- Prov. 19:13** A foolish son is ruin to his father, and a wife's quarreling is a continual dripping of rain.
- Prov. 19:26** He who does violence to his father and chases away his mother is a son who brings shame and reproach.
- Prov. 28:7** The one who keeps the law is a son with understanding, but a companion of gluttons shames his father.

2. Families are communities of discipleship

- Prov. 1:8-9** Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.
- Prov. 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.
- Prov. 20:7** The righteous who walks in his integrity—blessed are his children after him!
- Prov. 13:24** Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.
- Prov. 23:14** If you strike him with the rod, you will save his soul from Sheol.
- Prov. 29:15** The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.

3. Families work best together as a team

Prov. 31:10-16, 22-25.

- Prov. 15:17** Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fattened ox and hatred with it.
- Prov. 17:17** A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Conclusion