

# FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

MIR MONROY

Every September, we celebrate Family Month as a church. I personally believe that our family plays a huge factor on who we are as a person, or who we might be in the years to come. Growing up, my family made a huge impact on my beliefs, practices, and faith. I am who I am because of how my parents guided me and led me to Christ. In my experience, every time I think of the word "family" I can think of words that actually start with F-A-M-I-L-Y itself!

**FUN.** Spending intentional quality time with our family surely brings joy to our hearts - it might be as simple as watching Netflix together, playing board games at home, or sharing stories during dinner time. We most definitely enjoy being in the presence of our family. Every time I ask kids what their favorite thing to do is, most of them would say, "spending time with family." I believe that is timeless and still applies to grown-ups.

**ARGUMENTS.** Of course, we love each other, we enjoy being together, but we are still different people with different personalities. As children grow older, they will start to have their own stand, conviction, and perspective in life. As a family, we tend to argue sometimes, and that is okay! What matters is that we respect each other, and we love one another with the love of Jesus. The love of Jesus Christ will make us understand each other's differences. After some time, you will all just laugh together while talking about simple arguments that happened in the past.

**MINISTRY.** Growing up, my parents exposed me to ministry at a very young

age. I was told of the importance of involving myself in the work of the Lord. As I grew my passion in the ministry of the Lord, my grandmother shared with me that our family is our first ministry. Our testimony as a minister of Christ is very important. The way we treat our family is very important in the eyes of the Lord, as we reflect and share His love, through ministry, to other people.

**INSPIRATION.** It's just amazing to hear how children's and youth's dreams are anchored on their family: "I want to build a house for my parents", "I want to buy a car for my family", "I want my parents to be happy", "I want to help my parents pay the bills", and list goes on and on. Our family inspires us to be better and to achieve the aspirations that we desire not just for ourselves, but for our whole family, instead.

**LOVE.** As we see the reality of family - that we are all sinful, we tend to be hurt by our family at times. But because of the love of God, we still choose and forgive, as God first loved us all and forgave our sins.

**YOUTHFUL.** No one grows old! If we are in the presence of our family, we don't bother whether we act childlike or immature. We play together, make fun of each other, knowing that we will be accepted, no matter what.

Family is a very important unit of society. Being able to reach one member of the family opens the door for the whole family to be reached. That is why, by the grace of God alone, we will intentionally start reaching out to the parents of the GCF South Metro

Christian School family. I personally believe in the importance of "Family Discipleship" and we pray that a time will come wherein all homes will advocate for this kind of discipleship.

Praise God because the School Discipleship Ministry and the Family Builders Ministry are working hand in hand together to be able to connect to the school family more, as the Lord provides venues for us to start journeying with them by holding positive parenting webinars, conducting short devotion times, and God willing, the start of Growth Groups for parents.

Pray with us for this new venture and journey that the Lord has entrusted to us! At the same time, take time to intentionally pray for your own family. You might be realizing now the importance of family discipleship, and might be a little disheartened in a way knowing that it wasn't practiced in your own home. But I want to remind you, do not lose heart! It is never too late! The best time to start discipling your family and leading them to Christ, is NOW. May God be with you in this new adventure! ✝

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