

Hi REVIVE Family!

This week we will be starting our new series called, “Family: Past, Present, and Future.”

As the holiday season is quickly approaching, this may or may not mean you will be gathering with your immediate or extended family. In recognizing that not all family structures are perfect, we wanted to provide a space in our next 5 REVIVE meetings to have God search our hearts as we dive deeper in processing our family dynamics.

Just to give you all a heads up, our purpose with this series is to do the following:

- ◆ Learn how to better process past family hurt and brokenness
- ◆ Grow in our ability to reflect on the blessings and baggage within our families, recognizing we all come from our own unique situations- but knowing God is still in the center of it all
- ◆ Leaning into the direction of positive change through action, application, and healing, breaking the mold of “what has been”

As our REVIVE core prepped, planned, and prayed for this family series, we discerned that we wanted to teach and lead times of reflection on the following topics:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Reconciliation and forgiveness
- ◆ Generational baggage
- ◆ Owning out expectations and fears, and recognizing our family’s culture and our identity within it
- ◆ Mourning and surrendering our family and hopes up to God

We hope that this series can allow for more freedom, empathy, healing, and understanding with your family, and future family- in Jesus’ name! We love a good, good Father and he wastes nothing!



The topic that Pastor Lauren will be taking us through today is on: Communication and Connection.

Psalm 145:4 says, “One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.”

Each generation must be taught who God is, what He has done for humanity, and how it looks like to have a relationship with him. Through studying the life of Timothy, we can see how God has given us a model of how to pass on our faith to others. Timothy was young when Paul revisited Lystra on his second missionary trip, about five years after the first. Historically, it is thought that Timothy’s family may have become Christians during that first visit. During those five years, Timothy matured in his faith under the spiritual guidance of his mother and grandmother. In Paul’s last letter to Timothy, Paul notes the family spiritual environment writing, “I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice ...” (2 Tim. 1:5).

Now read 2 Timothy 1:3-10: 3 “I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. 6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. 8 So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. 9 He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

Leaning into the direction of positive change through action, application, and healing, breaking the mold of “what has been”

- 1. First highlight the topics that stand out to you in the first half of the handout. Then highlight words or phrases that stand out to you in 2 Timothy.**
- 2. Ask the Holy Spirit how he wants to convict you of things you may have highlighted. What did he reveal to you?**
- 3. How might God be urging you to communicate or connect in a more healthy way with your family?**
- 4. Write out a prayer or say a prayer to God about your immediate family and extended family.**