

## Family: Roots, Restore, Revive – Week 2

### | INTRODUCTION

This week we continued in our vision series Family: Roots, Restore, Revive. Since the beginning, God has been using the family to watch over His creation. Ever since the world fell, His mission has been to redeem his creation through the family. You could sum up all Scripture in this one statement, God gets His family back. This week we focused on how our picture of God deeply impacts our life. It impacts everything we do, and it especially impacts our view of family. God intentionally gave us a picture of Him as our father, and if that picture is broken our family units and involvement in them will be too. Let's see how God describes Himself in Exodus 34 and see how it impacts our view of family.

### | SCRIPTURE

*<sup>6</sup>And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the **compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,** <sup>7</sup>**maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.**"*

*Exodus 34:6-7*

### | TEACHING

In Exodus 34 we see an integral moment in the Old Testament. Exodus 34 finds God showing who He is to Moses. It is easy for us to forget that there was a time when people didn't know the personal aspects of our God. He has been progressively revealing Himself throughout history, and we are on the receiving end of every one of those moments. However, a lot of people in the Old Testament didn't have those moments. They didn't know God's name, but they knew He was the one true God and that He was worth following.

In Exodus 34, we see God have one of these historical moments of self-revelation. God names Himself Yahweh and describes His character. "The Lord" in our translation of this passage is Yahweh. That is His name. He then describes His character to Moses, what the name Yahweh brings with it. It is almost impossible to describe the importance of this moment. This is the moment when God names Himself and describes Himself at a time when He didn't have a name or a large track record. He is faithful, patient, loving, compassionate, and He is just. This is the picture of our heavenly Father. When we have this picture right, and we imitate this, our families are forever changed.

One of the most impactful pieces of our family dynamics are our view of our fathers. For many of us, fathers represent distance, emotional blow outs, and anger. But God shows us that as our heavenly Father He is gracious, slow to anger, just, loving, and compassionate. When we

get this picture right, we can change our families by being a reflection and instrument of our heavenly Father.

### **| REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

- Do you have any unconfessed sin in your life?
- How do you think your family has impacted your view of God as your heavenly father?
- How has your family given you a good picture of God?
- How is your picture of God broken?
- Are you resistant to the loving correction of your heavenly Father?
- How do you think your picture of your earthy father impacts your picture of your heavenly Father?