Connect Study –Kingdom Family Cultures

Jesus taught us to pray “Let Your Kingdom come, your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven”. The Kingdom of God is about the reign of God. As his representatives, we are to bring the reign of God into our family, our church and our community.

We have been looking at the five Kingdom Family Cultures which relate to both our own family and the church family. When our family is strong, it helps strengthen the church family, at the same time, the church family can resource and help build our own families.

The five kingdom family cultures are:

* The Culture of blessing. God blessed Adam before he gave him a mission - Matt 12:35 says “A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him” therefore, we can see blessings begin in the heart. The author Gary Smalley said that blessings can be expressed by “meaningful touch, spoken words, expressing high values, picturing a special future and an active commitment—an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person”.
* The Culture of honour. The Hebrew word for honour is “kabad” which means to “make heavy” or “to give weight”. In some cultures, honour is seen as something that the younger people give to those who are more senior in age or rank. Honour in the Bible is mutual. There’s a duality in honour. Even God honours those who honour Him. One practical expression of honour is “listening”.
* Culture of presence. We need to be conscious of the presence of God in our daily walk.
* Culture of faith. To nurture the culture of faith, we need to learn to see things differently—look beyond the seen to the unseen; think differently—align our thinking to the word of God through journaling and memorising of scripture and speak differently—let the word of God be always on our lips and keep the testimonies alive.
* Culture of prayer and worship.

Discussion questions:

1. Did you grow up in a home with a culture of blessing? How has that affected you?
2. How can you practically nurture a culture of blessing in your family (or if your family is not here, start with your connect group) to call out the greatness in your spouse and your kids or one another?

Suggestion: speak the priestly blessing in Num 6:24-26 over each other

1. Ask one of your connect members to rate your listening ability from 1-5. One meaning improvement needed, 5 meaning excellent listener. What are some practical ways we can develop our listening ability?
2. Rom 10:17 says “faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God”. Notice that hearing is written in present tense. How can you strengthen your faith by “hearing the word of God”?
3. Ps Faith mentioned Faith can also mean “patience with mystery”. There are seasons in our lives when God seems to be hidden, what are some foundational truths we need to remember to keep our faith strong? (e.g. God is always good)