

## Middle School Discussion Guide

*Keep It Together: For the week of August 21 - 27, 2022*

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### **Main Thought, Scriptures & Discussion:**

Sometimes we fight with family over really important things. But we can all agree that we get into fights for completely unimportant reasons. This proves that everyone in our family is made alike, but different. God desires for us to learn to work together and be an example to the community and world around us based on how we love and serve each person in our family.

- Who is one person in your family that is a challenge to serve? Why is it a challenge for you?
- How can you serve them regardless of how you feel or what you think they deserve?

In the bible, Paul explains to the church that we should get rid of all the bad things we put out into our family and learn to replace those bad things with the good things of God's example. In turn, we will begin to see change in ourselves and then eventually in our family members.

*"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup>Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. <sup>1</sup>Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup>and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 4:31-5:2 NIV)*

- What is one thing that you need Jesus' help to change about yourself so that you can remain reconciled with the rest of your family?
- On average it takes 66 days to make something a habit. What is one good habit you would like to develop so that your family can be blessed by you?

*"Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation..." (Colossians 1:21-22 NIV)*

*"Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord." (Hebrews 12:14 NIV)*

### **Prayer:**

- Pray that God would help us keep our families in unity.
- Pray a blessing over each of your family members by name.
- Pray that God would use us to reach our friends and invite them to church and small groups.