

Family Matters



FAMILY MATTERS

August 30, 2026

PSALM 103:8–10

SUNDAY REFRESHER

The people closest to us often see the parts of us everyone else misses. They know our weaknesses, our frustrations, and the places where we still need to grow. That kind of closeness can create deep connection, but it also means families have the ability to hurt one another deeply. Healthy families are not families where nobody gets it wrong. They are families that know how to respond with grace when things go wrong.

God shows us what that grace looks like. He is merciful, slow to anger, and does not treat us as our sins deserve. Through Jesus, we receive grace we could never earn, and that grace is meant to shape how we treat the people closest to us. Grace does not ignore the hurt, remove every consequence, or instantly restore trust. It takes the wound seriously while refusing to let bitterness have the final word. We get grace from God, and then we give grace to one another.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

- *What did God say to you through this passage and teaching?*
- *Did God reveal anything new to you?*
- *How is this relevant in your journey to make disciples who Love God and Love people?*



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QUESTIONS

- *Why can the words and actions of family members hurt us more deeply than those of anyone else? Is there a family wound that continues to influence how you respond today?*
- *What is the difference between extending grace and pretending that nothing happened? How can forgiveness, healthy boundaries, and rebuilding trust work together?*
- *Who in your family needs some of the grace God has already given you? What step could you take this week to apologize, forgive, listen, or stop keeping score?*

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Ephesians 4:32 | Hebrews 12:15

CONCLUSION

Every hurt has to go somewhere. When it does not encounter grace, it can grow into resentment, withdrawal, suspicion, and bitterness. Those roots rarely remain hidden or contained. They eventually affect our marriages, our children, and even the generations that follow. Grace heals what bitterness keeps alive.

The gospel can create homes where people do not have to pretend they always get it right because they know what to do when they get it wrong. Grace listens instead of immediately defending. It says, "I was wrong." It forgives, establishes healthy boundaries when necessary, and gives people room to grow. Healthy families do not always get it right. They get grace when they get it wrong.

Knowing that life transformation happens best through intentional, meaningful relationships, don't let this week's sermon remain as mere information. In the next few days, look for ways to teach, challenge, encourage and/or pray about what you're discovering!

