

THE BIG IDEA CURRICULUM
Sermon: Church God's Family
Sermon 9.5.09
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Small Group Study for Week of May 9-15

The Big Idea: God uses many different metaphors to try and let us know how much He loves us. One of the clearest and most important is that of a woman or mother. God wants us to be part of His family but He also wants us to relate to others in such a way that they will want to be part of His family as well.

Group Reads: Matthew 23: 37

Questions:

1. Jesus describes himself as a mother hen. Why?
2. What is Jesus attitude to the families of those who stone others and commit murder?
3. What type of people do we often look down on?
4. What are some practical ways we as a church family could do to gather people we know are evil, bad, difficult or different under our wings?
5. What should we do if people don't want to be part of our church family?

Group Reads: Revelation 12:1-12

In this prophecy the woman represents the church down through the ages.

Questions:

6. Verse 6 tells us that the woman (church) has had to flee but she flees to a place that has been prepared for her and where she is taken care of. What does this verse tell us about God and His church?
7. How should I feel about God's church?
8. Verse 10 talks about the accuser of the brethren (the devil) being cast down. How often do you think we do the work of the devil by accusing others or even ourselves?
9. When we sin and confess to God our sins, we are forgiven and God forgets our sins. Why do we listen to the devil and continue to accuse ourselves about past sins?
10. What can we do to stop accusing others and ourselves? How does verse 12 help?

Group Reads: Revelation 12:13-17

These verses end up describing the woman's descendants just before Christ comes

Questions:

11. How are the last of the woman's descendants described?
12. How can I be a part of that family? Check verses 11 and 17
13. What other points did I get out of this chapter?
14. What am I going to do as a result of this lesson?