

## **The Call to Fatherhood Small Group Guide**

**Warm-up Question:** (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. How did you spend Father's Day?
2. How have your relationships been affected during the past few months of quarantine?

**Read the following passages:** Genesis 18:16-21; Proverbs 1:1-3; Psalm 89:14

We see in both Sodom and Gomorrah and in our own nation a global outcry for a godly nation; for a right and just nation. In the Book of Genesis, God called Abraham to be a father of nations saying: "For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just..." (Gen. 18:19) This account shows us the strong connection between a nations well being and fathers directing their children.

**Questions for Discussion** (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Who are some people who have fulfilled a fatherly role in your life? (Biological father, other relatives, spiritual father, pastor, teacher, coach, etc.) What did they do to fulfill that role?
2. Some of us have had good relationships with our fathers. Others have had complicated or difficult relationships. What would a "perfect father" look like? How do we see that reflected in God?
3. As we learned in Sunday's sermon, we can be tempted to handle our sin by suppressing and avoiding its reality and consequences. Why do you think we tend to do this? How should we handle our sin instead? (See 1 John 1:9; James 5:16.)
4. The biblical concepts of righteousness and justice are deeply interrelated. Righteousness calls us to inconvenience ourselves for the benefit of the community. What are ways in which someone could exemplify this? How can you do this in *your community*?
5. Read Isaiah 28:5-6. God is a source of strength to those who fight for righteousness and justice. Have you ever found yourself tired from fighting for what's right? If so, how can you rely on God to be your source of strength and renewal?

6. Is there anyone in your life (father, child, or someone else) whom God is leading you towards reconciling with? What practical step can you take this week to build a bridge toward that person?

**Pray**