

1) <u>DEFEND</u>

"After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." – Nehemiah 4:14

- Against the Things of the World
- Against Themselves

2) <u>DEPART</u>

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." – Deuteronomy 6:6-9

- Example of Faithful Living
- Continue to Share the Gospel
- O PRAY

3) **DISFUNCTION**

• DON'T Give Up!

• Lonely, Alone, Alienated, Isolated, Afraid

Hosea 14:3 "...in you alone do the orphans find mercy." Psalm 27:10 "Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close."

John 14:18 "No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you."

• You <u>ARE</u> a *CHILD* of **GOD**!

John 1:12 "But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God."

Romans 8:14-17 "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God... Now we call him, 'Abba, Father."

Galatians 3:26 "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

Ephesians 1:5 "God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure."

Colossians 3:12 "Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves..."

(Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 John 3:1-2, Revelation 21:7)

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: What is one thing that you will always stand up for and defend no matter what? (A person, team, social justice issue, band, belief, value?)
Q2: Reflect on a time you had to be honest with someone in order to keep them accountable or to help them change. How did that affect you? Them?
Q3: Who in your family can you begin to pray for an opportunity to share the Gospel with? Write their name: ______.

Q4: Read Ephesians 5:21-6:4. Whether you are married or single, when is it hard for you to humbly submit your will to that of another person?Q5: What does it mean to submit to the Lord? (Ephesians 5:22)Q6: Read Ephesians 2:19-22. How has the church been a family to you??

Q7: This past year has been tough! Read the first list of verses from #3. How does knowing that you are a part of God's family comfort you **Q8**: What does it mean to you that "You **ARE** a *CHILD* of **GOD**!"?