

Instafam

Instafam: Part 1

Small Group Questions: #PictureFail

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Read

1 Kings 11:1 –4, 6, 9–12 and Isaiah 61:3

Reflect

Our social media posts so often highlight our “picture-perfect” moments. But behind the smiles, sometimes those snapshots don’t match what’s really going on in our lives.

Pastor Greg highlights a few things we know about INSTAFAM pics:

1. There is no such thing as a perfect family picture.
 - a. Think of a photo with friends or family that looks perfect.
 - i. Do you recall something less than perfect happening at the time?
 - b. Are you hoping people will take the photo at face value? Why might that be?
 - c. Do you ever feel discouraged or depressed when looking at others’ photos on social media?
 - d. In the Bible, whose family at first glance seemed close to perfect?
 - i. Taking a closer look, what flaws do you see?
 - ii. Is there a biblical family that bears some resemblance to your own? Or someone with whom you identify?
2. There is no such thing as a completed family picture.
 - a. Photos capture moments in time. People continue to live, making choices every day that lead in one direction or another. Good or bad.
 - i. Have you heard someone say a certain decision will only impact him or her? That it won’t hurt anyone else?
 - ii. How have you seen this to be untrue?
 - iii. Do you believe your choices today could impact generations to come?
 - b. Have you ever thought of God as a cosmic party pooper, but later understood his reasons?
 - c. Solomon willfully disobeyed the Lord in marrying foreign women with beliefs in false gods. To honor his promise to David, God said he would not take the kingdom from Solomon. Instead, he would strip it away from his son.
 - i. Is there an area of disobedience that you need to address now so that those you love do not suffer the repercussions?
3. There is no such thing as an unfixable family picture.
 - a. Does your picture feel cracked or smashed? Is it from loss, disappointment, abuse, or betrayal?
 - b. In what ways might you be choosing to continue the old story, allowing your past to define you?
 - c. Is there someone you need to forgive?
 - d. Are you willing to place the burden of justice into God’s hands?
 - i. Do you trust him with the rest of your story?
 - e. How have you seen God redeem the broken?
 - i. Review Jesus’s genealogy. How has God shown that he likes to weave disparate pictures into a collage and form something altogether new?
 - f. What choices will you make to change your story and those of generations to come?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?