

# Sunday Leftovers

## Sermon Title: It Starts at Home

**What's this message about** –Along with so many other areas of our lives, we treat faith as a service economy; we outsource our spiritual formation like we outsource our lawn care, laundry, and cooking. The problem is that scripture never describes our relationships with God in this way. Rather, the bible reveals that the role of the church is to equip you to be an instrument through which the people around you grow closer to Christ. The church can resource you, equip you and encourage you, but you'll have to do the work. No one can do this work for you; but we can give you the tools you need to begin the journey of spiritual formation.

Spiritual formation is how we become more like Jesus. The problem is that most of us don't know where to begin in our own lives or in the lives of our families. We'll spend the next couple weeks talking about what this might look like in our marriages, our parenting and grand-parenting and our closest circle of friends. The question isn't what is or is not happening at church- it's what is happening at home. This work starts at home!

### Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *What does this passage tell us about growing spiritually (Matthew 13:1-9)?*
- *What are some obstacles that prevent believers from playing an active personal role in the spiritual formation of their family members?*
- *What are some practical ways that can be used to practice intentional spiritual formation with your family?*

**Do something about it:** What are we doing each day to redirect the desires of our family's hearts toward God? How are we investing in the spiritual lives of our family/children/ and/or spouses? This week think of at least one way that you can overtly assist in the spiritual formation of a family member. It could be as simple as asking them to share the blessing before a meal, serving together and/or reading a passage from the Bible at bedtime. Whatever you choose, make it a regular occurrence so that healthy spiritual habits are beginning to form.

### **Digging deeper:**

Deuteronomy 4:9,10; 6:4-8; Joshua 24:14,15; Proverbs 22:6; Matthew 13:1-9; Ephesians 6:1-4