

TAKE THE INITIATIVE

Family Visitations

Acts 20:20 “You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house”.

WHAT IS FAMILY VISITATION?

Family visitation is about getting to know the members of our faith community-- their concerns and their aspirations; so as to pray and care for each other with understanding.

It is about visiting the members at their home or to have them over at ours.

Acts 2:46. “...and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,”

WHY HAVE FAMILY VISITATION?

- *It is Biblical – the early church shows us a pattern we are to follow [Acts 5:42]*
- *It is Pastoral. Biblical family visitation is not primarily “social”- it is intended to tend to each other’s cares and needs (1 Pet. 5:2).*
- *It fosters community Prayer. We are called to pray for each other. (James 5:16).*

WHAT PURPOSE DOES IT SERVE?

Family visits help us to serve members and their families in the following ways -

- *To build up and encourage. [Heb 10:25]*
- *To challenge each other to service and witness. [Eph 4:12]*
- *To promote fellowship. [Gal 6:2], and*
- *To grow as a spiritual community. [Col 2:2].*

WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

This is an opportunity that should be availed by everyone. The leadership commits to visit every member once every year [Acts 20:28] but each one of us also has the responsibility to help them in building up the community.

COMPONENTS OF FAMILY VISITATION

These are examples of what may be covered. Flexibility is greatly encouraged to prevent formality.

- *Discussion: Personal, family and church matters.*
- *Scripture: Recap of Sunday's message; Sharing Scripture; What God has been teaching you; prayer.*
- *Prayer*

THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR

- *Treat the opportunity as sacred. Be mindful of each others' time.*
- *Do not make this to be another list of things to do. Keep it natural and as something that brings joy to your spirit.*
- *Remember to pray – before, during and after.*