

Use this guide to engage in further discussion about Sunday's sermon, applying it to your heart in a personal way. Feel free to alter questions to fit children in your family.

Follow this simple outline:

1. Sit down together with no distractions.
2. Have a member of the family open in prayer.
3. Read all or a portion of the sermon text.
4. Work through the discussion questions. Encourage your family to talk.
5. Share ways to apply the sermon to life
6. Close in prayer.

Time Commitment:
15-20 Minutes

Discussion Questions:

1. What are the burdens that you feel right now? Have you taken some time to talk to someone about them? Are you praying about these burdens or are you trying to carry them in your own strength?
2. When was the last time you that thought of the personal way that Jesus cares for you? How much comfort and strength do you draw from knowing that Jesus cares for you the way that 1 Peter 5:7 describes?
3. Are you burdened for loved ones in your life that are living far from God or rejecting God altogether? How does this verse inform the way you think of these loved ones?
4. Bill Landers challenged us to let go of the burdens of 2020 so that we can face 2021 with a deep sense of trust in the Lord and hope that he will give us what we need to meet tomorrow's challenges. Will you take some time today and do as a fisherman and cast your cares on Christ?
5. Thinking deeply of the burdens of others and leading them to Christ is one of the defining marks of Bill and Teresa Landers' ministry. How can we embrace their example and live missionally in our own mission field of Smyrna (or wherever you might live)? What keeps us from living this way?
6. Bill challenged us to consider the story of how he helped a soldier crab get an upgraded shell for its home. What point was he making? How does this story invite us to go to Jesus and cast our burdens on Him?

