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To our Church Family,

The message of the Bible is so powerful. It is the story of God's love for you and me. It is the story of hope. It is the story of our future—eternal life with Jesus. Nothing can be more rewarding or life-changing than studying God's Word regularly.

Through the years, we've grown accustomed to Bible classes with our church family being a key source of focused time and study. In fact, we are quite proud of the Bible classes we've offered at Charlestown Road for our children and adults, and we long to get back together to engage with you for in-person studies.

But in this challenging time where our physical gatherings are limited, we've been given an important opportunity to reflect upon what God's Word has to say about Bible study. Bible classes at the church building are not intended to be the key source of learning about God's Word. That is actually to occur within our homes.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." (Deuteronomy 6:7-9)

The essence of Moses' instruction has a relevant application to the ideal model for us, even today:

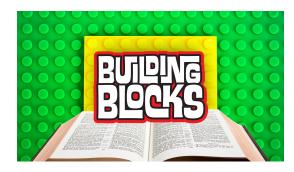
- "Sit" as a family to study
- "Talk" as a family about God
- "Walk" through your day together with God as the focus
- "Lie down" at night and "rise in the morning" in prayer and acknowledgement as a family regarding God's love

Because being in our physical classrooms early in 2021 will not be wise due to health concerns, we want to spend the first part of the year really getting back to the basics of teaching within our homes. As such, we have designed a track of Bible study designed for entire families to participate in. Please note, Roger will be leading an important Bible class on the Old Testament book of *Nehemiah* that relates directly to

our 2021 congregational theme. We certainly encourage our adults to engage with that study as much as time and opportunity allows.

But we also realize that the needs within our church family are diverse. The **BUILDING BLOCKS** track of study is built with the basics in mind:

 Families opt-in (CharlestownRoad.org/ BuildingBlocks) to receive a weekly resources package via email (published every Friday at 4:00 PM)



- Weekly email explains big-picture goals for parents
- One weekend class video (10-15 minutes) for the whole family
- 5 suggested Bible readings for the week that correspond with the monthly theme (all written and referenced material from the *English Standard Version*\*)
- Basic questions for family discussion & children's activity downloads
- Supplemental videos just for kids with simple lesson summaries and lots of singing

Please know that we hope to be back in classes at Charlestown Road physically in the near future, but we believe this is a great way to begin 2021, reigniting home-based interaction with the Bible and strengthening our families, home by home.

We will appreciate your thoughts and feedback as we embark upon this together. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Jason for more details.

**BUILDING BLOCKS:** A brand new approach to Bible study for the entire family, launching January 1, 2021. Don't forget to sign up at **CharlestownRoad.org/ BuildingBlocks**. We're excited to start building together!

- The shepherds at Charlestown Road

<sup>\*</sup> If you or the members of your family do not have *ESV*s and you would like copies, we have a stockpile at the church building. Please see Jason and he would be happy to give you as many as you need.