

PARENTING

Objective for Learning: To understand the responsibility, joy, and gift of raising Christ followers in your own home.

Objective for Living: To be equipped to lead your children in the ways of the Lord with intentionality, guidance, and love.

Objective for Reproducing: To be able to help other parents be able to live out this call to raise children to follow Jesus and His ways.

Scriptures for Parenting:

- Proverbs 22:6
- Colossians 3:21
- Ephesians 6:1-4
- Proverbs 29:17
- Proverbs 1:8-9

- Psalm 127:3-5
- 2 Timothy 3:14-15
- Deuteronomy 6:6-9
- Proverbs 3:1-6

How do each of these Scriptures help to **define** and **illuminate** what accountability is and why it is important?

Hearing (Discussion Points and Questions):

Overview:

Parenting is one of the most difficult and most rewarding relationships we will ever have. The depth of unconditional love that parents have for their children is unparalleled. The challenge of stewarding the gift of children is equally unparalleled! But below are a few things that we can do as parents to help our children see and experience the love of Jesus that leads to real faith in Christ.

As parents, we ourselves need to be living out our faith. Understand and live out your faith, immerse yourself in the habit abiding with Jesus daily, and be a part of real,

authentic Christian community. Model this for your children. But don't forget the joy of the Lord! Let them see how much He fills your life with His joyful presence (Psalm 16:11). Lead them in reveling in awe and wonder at who He is and His creation (Psalm 150). Worship, dance, joyfully pray, and sing with your children (Psalm 149). Share the Gospel with your children in a variety of ways. Ensure that their faith has strong roots by presenting the Gospel all the time (Romans 10:14). Don't waste a moment to lift their eyes to the wonder, majesty, and joy of following Jesus. Your passion, joy, and love for Jesus will make a lasting impression on your children.

Cultivate an environment where they can become who Christ has called them to be even if that looks different than you. Let Jesus shape and mold them as you constantly call to them to follow you as you follow Christ (1 Cor. 11:1).

Questions for Learning and Living:

- ∉ What are some of the biggest challenges in regards to parenting for you?
 - How do the Scriptures speak to that? What is the Lord telling you through His Word, His Spirit, and your Christian community?
- ∉ What has been going well for you in regards to parenting?
- What areas are you desiring to see progress in with your parenting or parenting style?
- ∉ What are some of the ways you incorporate your faith into your parenting?
- What are some other things you can do to increase that faith deposit into your children?

Questions for Reproducing:

- What are you doing well in regards to parenting that you can reproduce in others?
- How do you help a parent begin to make progress if they are struggling to simply survive day to day as a parent, much less make disciples of their kids?
- What are some of the ways you specifically invite Jesus into your parenting that you can lead others in as well?

Doing (Implementation and Application):

- What is Jesus saying to you about this?
- How are you going to respond? Look at your personal discipleship assessment.
 - o Give 1-3 concrete action steps that you are going to do this week to help you take the next step of learning, living, or reproducing in this area.
- Choose one of the Scriptures that really impacted you and commit to memorizing it this week.