

The Gospel Work of Parenting

Ephesians 6:4

There is no greater calling or more important role than that of parenting. It is a God-given responsibility. The goal is not to raise "good" kids or "productive citizens". The goal is to raise Christ followers! This verse gives us practical direction for how to raise our children.

I. The Heart of Our Children Matter

A. Do not provoke or discourage your children (Colossians 3:21)

II. The Heart of the Matter of Parenting

A. Bring them up in the Lord

B. Apply the discipline of the Lord

C. Give them the instruction of the Lord

Applications

Know

What does God intend for me to know? In your journal, use the following prompts to write some truths that stood out from this week's message.

l never knew...

I was reminded...

A question I still have...

A truth I could share...

I was challenged...

I was convicted...

nood to dia doopor into

I was encouraged to...

I need to dig deeper into...

Be (Consider)

What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider? In your journal, use the following questions to write some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.

Is there a command to obey? How am I compelled to exalt God? Is there a promise to claim? Is there a principle to follow? Is there an example to follow? Am I convicted to confess any sin? Is there a sin to avoid? How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel? How can I pray for someone else? What am I compelled to love or desire?



How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.

Is there anything you need to change about how you are approaching your parenting? What are some changes that are needed to minimize frustration, anger and discouragement for your children?

What ideas did you hear today that you would like to implement as you raise your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord?

If you are not actively parenting, are there children in your sphere of influence that you could encourage toward the Lord? Are there parents in your sphere of influence you could encourage in some way?

The parent/ child relationship is important. Do you need to seek or give some "gospel" forgiveness to your parents or your children today?

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.

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