Discipleship Parenting

A Parent's Guide

The Main Goal:

A Saving Relationship with Jesus

Work Backward

Keep our eyes on the goal and then determine the steps to get there.

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. 6 Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. 7 Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. 8 Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, 9 and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Everything we do should be intentionally geared toward making a match between our kids and Jesus.

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We are saved through relationship.

John 15 & Deuteronomy 6

Super-not perfect

Our children do not need us to be perfect, they need us to point them to the perfect God that we are seeking to know.

We learn relationships differently.

Every relationship we have is based on relationships we've witnessed.

Modeling Human Relationships

Disagree respectfully.

Apologize when necessary.

Show empathy and compassion.

Serve.

Modeling Your Relationship with God Let your kids see the nuts and bolts of your devotional life.

Tips to teach kids to do their own devotions

- 1. Let them see you study.
- 2. Talk to them about your personal Bible study.
- 3. Offer to help them with their own study in their own Bible!

The Hidden Curriculum of the Family

Parents are modeling to their children <u>all of the</u> <u>time</u>, **even when they aren't being intentional about it**.

Child Guidance, p. 193

"Too much importance cannot be placed on the early training of children. The lessons that the child learns during the first seven years of life have more to do with forming his character than all that it learns in future years."

1. A person's moral foundations are generally in place by the time they reach age nine.

2. A person's response to the meaning and personal value of Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection is usually determined before a person reaches eighteen. In fact, a majority of Americans make a lasting determination about the personal significance of Christ's death and resurrection by age 12.

3. In most cases people's spiritual beliefs are irrevocably formed when they are pre-teens.

4. Adult church leaders usually have serious involvement in church life and training when they are young. The statistics gathered...showed that more than four out of five of those leaders had consistently been involved in the ministry to children for an extended period of years prior to age 13.

Part of discipleship as a parent is being intentional about what our kids are exposed to.

-TV
-Video Games
-Books
-Music
-Social Media

Family Devotions

5 Tips for Meaningful Family Worship

- 1. Choose the right setting.
- 2. Make family devotions a habit.
- 3. Keep worship relational.
- 4. Prioritize prayer.
- 5. Let the kids lead out.



Isaiah 58:13,14

A date with Jesus!

Worship: Removing the Boundaries

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Parenting IS discipleship:

The first step in leading our kids into a relationship with Christ is having a relationship with Christ.

You can't share what you don't have.

Mark 10:13-16

He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Connecting our children to Jesus

What is success?

success ≠ perfect children

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

Don't confuse the work of parenting with the work of the Holy Spirit!

The Good News

- 1. Less guilt
- 2. God's power
- 3. The long game
- 4. We need evangelism for our own salvation

We will be more effective disciple-makers when we stop listening to our guilt and shame telling us that we are not enough.

1 John 3:1

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.

Questions?

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