



#RELATIONSHIPGOALS

Bringing People Closer Than Ever

CLOSER TO MY KIDS

October 15th, 2017

Closer to My Kids

- Right Path: *Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it. - Proverbs 22:6 NLT*

Proverbs 16:17; 12:28

- Wrong Path: *Those who follow the right path fear the Lord; those who take the wrong path despise him. - Proverbs 14:2 NLT*

Proverbs 14:12; 15:10

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

- Luke 2:52 NIV

God's P.A.T.H. for Parenting

1. Provide a SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION.

Choose today whom you will serve...But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord. - Joshua 24:15 NLT

In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success. - Proverbs 3:6 TLB

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. - Deuteronomy 6:6-9 NIV

2. Affirm them EMOTIONALLY.

Children are a gift from the Lord - Psalm 127:3 NLT

How Kids Understand Love

- Through ATTENTION
- Through ACCEPTANCE
- Through AFFECTION

3. Train Them According to THEIR SHAPE.

*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.
- Proverbs 22:6 NKJV*

- MODELING

*The righteous lead blameless lives; blessed are their children after them.
- Proverbs 20:7 NIV*

- MOTIVATING

Discipline your children while they are young enough to learn. If you don't, you are helping them destroy themselves. - Proverbs 19:18 GNT

4. Help Them Develop GODLY HABITS.

*Practice these things. Devote your life to them so that everyone can see your progress.
- 1 Timothy 4:15 GW*

I can do all this through him who gives me strength. - Philippians 4:13 NIV

My Next Step This Week...

- Memorize *Proverbs 22:6*.
- Ensure that my parenting skills are embracing the P.A.T.H.
- Find a way to be of benefit to a young parent who needs some support.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

Walk the Talk

A Small Group Discussion Guide

1. Which of these TV families reflects your family: Cleavers, Flintstones, Bradys, Huxtables, Waltons, Simpsons?
2. Read Ephesians 6:1-4 aloud to the group:
 - a. What does God ask of all children and with what promise?
 - b. How can parents bring their children up “in the training and instruction of the Lord”? What does this look like?
 - c. If you were to use one word to give a picture of what “exasperating a child” looks like, what would it be?
3. When you look at how Jesus grew, in Luke 2:52, how can it be a solid outline for us to help our kids grow?
4. What part of the P.A.T.H. did you like most in the outline above? Why did you pick that one?
5. What have you found that works best for opening up a kid’s heart to listen and follow your lead? What allows you to get closer to their hearts?
6. Have a time of prayer for the families in the group and in the church.