

LifeGroup Questions
Based on: 1 Samuel 2:12-34
February 10, 2019

Overview

From last week's lesson:

How was Eli able to raise Samuel to fear the Lord and yet fail with his own two sons? The text doesn't address this specifically. It is possible that Eli raised his two sons around God and not with God. He taught them the rituals, but left out the relationship. These two men were around religious activities their whole lives and yet it never changed their behavior.

Is it possible today to raise kids around Jesus and not with Jesus? Is church something they attend on the weekend or is there a deep relationship with God being developed?

There was a book published in 1996 called "It Takes a Village". Although this book was fairly popular during its time, I would disagree with it beginning in the title. If you allow society to raise your child don't be surprised if the results are less than what you wanted. I would say it takes a Godly Focused Parents to Raise a Child. Parents committed to passing on the torch of faith to the next generation. This involves more than just dropping off kids in the children's or youth department. It means actively seeking ways to invest in the spiritual lives of kids and youth. The Church is just one component of your child's spiritual growth.

There are 168 hours in a week. Even if you brought your kids to church twice a week for an hour each time they would only be spending .01% of their time at the church each week. Most of the spiritual development of children happens at home. This involves both mom and dad actively involved in helping their kid's faith grow.

What do you want your kid's faith to look like when they become an adult? Are you parenting with the end result in mind? It is never too late to get involved. Don't just hope for the best, invest in them and parent with the end result in mind.

Bible Study: 1 Samuel 2:12-34

Read the passage in 1 Samuel 2:12-34. Which of these tips below would have helped Eli with his sons? Discuss which tips you need to work on as well for either your child or grandchild.

Parenting Tips by Dr. Kevin Leman

1. Watch your expectations, make sure they are positive and not negative!

2. Make sure your kids get enough Vitamin E (encouragement) and some very essential Vitamin N which is No! Remember, if you love your child, you will disciple them
3. Rules are important but not the only thing that important, relationships matter most!
4. Have fun with your kids, laugh at yourself, use the words, "I am sorry".
5. Finally, to put it bluntly, do not take any disrespectful act from your son or daughter without significant consequences!