

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

Parenting Shaped by
Grace and Truth

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT THIS EVENING

- Table Discussion
- Some teaching and activities that will help us grow in our understanding of the following
 - Jesus
 - Yourself
 - Your Kids
- As far as resources, we'll point out some helpful people that are a part of our community as well as some of our favorite books, podcasts, blogs and YouTube Videos.

AT YOUR TABLE, DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. What are some words you would use to describe what parenting looks like/feels like in your home?
2. What are your parenting strengths? Weaknesses?
3. What are some patterns in your parenting where you feel stuck?

HOW DOES KNOWING AND FOLLOWING JESUS
INFLUENCE/INFORM THE WAY YOU
DISCIPLINE/PARENT/TALK TO/ENGAGE WITH YOUR KIDS?

MARY AND MARTHA (JOHN 11)

These sisters have just lost their brother, Lazarus.

They are both in the midst of grief.

They are both distraught with Jesus for not being there
to save him.

They each have a unique interaction with Jesus.

MARTHA

- Martha is active
- Martha runs out to meet Jesus
- Martha expresses her grief with a statement of faith

MARY

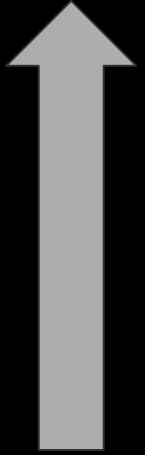
- Mary is emotional
- Mary comes to Jesus when He calls
- Mary expresses her grief by falling down and weeping

JESUS WITH MARTHA

- Jesus receives Martha
- Jesus doesn't discredit her, but encourages her and then gives her additional truth

JESUS WITH MARY

- Jesus calls to her
- Jesus weeps with her
- Jesus asks where Lazarus is



TRUTH

Out and above
Abiding
Security
Seeing things
from his
perspective

GRACE

Truth in action
Put on love
Reflect
Respond
Meet with



COLOSSIANS 3:1-2 (MSG)

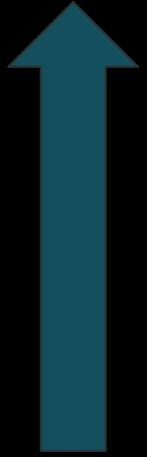
So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, *act* like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from *his* perspective.

COLOSSIANS 3:12-14 (MSG)

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

COLOSSIANS 3:15-17 (MSG)

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way.



TRUTH

Out and above
Abiding
Seeing things
from his
perspective

Truth in action
Compassion
Kindness
Humility
Meekness
Patience
Forgiveness
Reflect
Respond

GRACE



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Which response (Mary or Martha) do you resonate with?

Which response from Jesus resonates with you?

What comes to mind when you think about this story in the context of parenting?

WHEN YOU KNOW WHO GOD IS, AND YOU KNOW WHO
YOU ARE, THEN YOU WILL KNOW WHAT IS YOURS TO DO.

- PAULA GAMBLE-GRANT

HOW DOES KNOWING AND UNDERSTANDING YOURSELF
INFLUENCE/INFORM THE WAY YOU
DISCIPLINE/PARENT/TALK TO/ENGAGE WITH YOUR KIDS?

- Jesus operated out of a deep understanding of who he was--The Son of the Father.
- What if we operated out of a deep knowledge of who we are--tethered to the truth of knowing who he is?
- The digging deep into your story and understanding the deeper parts of yourself can be a difficult and unpleasant process, but there's freedom and healing in it.

"Who we are is a much more accurate predictor of how our kids will do than what we know or understand about the science of parenting."

- Brene Brown

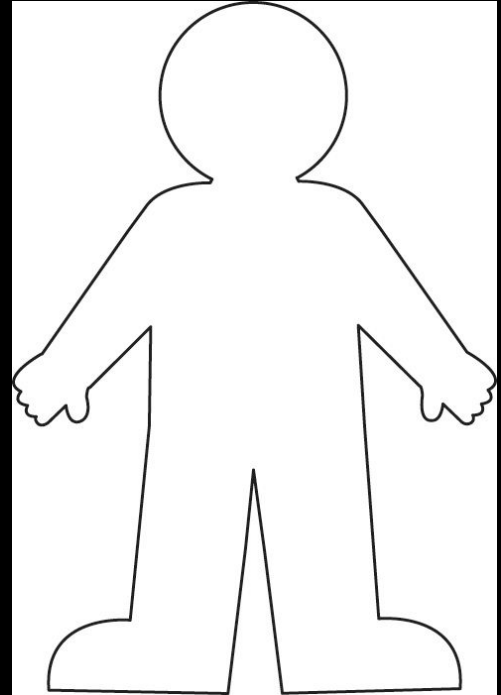
"Embracing your inability as a parent and understanding that you can't save or control your children, liberates you to be an instrument of grace in the hands of God. "

-Paul David Tripp

EXERCISE #1: A MAP OF YOU

Using the handout at your table, work on answering the following questions about yourself:

- What motivates you?
- How do you process information?
- What's your learning style?
- How you receive love from others?
- How you show love to others?
- What's most life giving to you?
- How do you handle emotions?
- What triggers you?
- What are some fears you have?





HOW DOES KNOWING AND UNDERSTANDING YOUR KIDS
INFLUENCE/INFORM THE WAY YOU
DISCIPLINE/PARENT/TALK TO/ENGAGE WITH THEM?

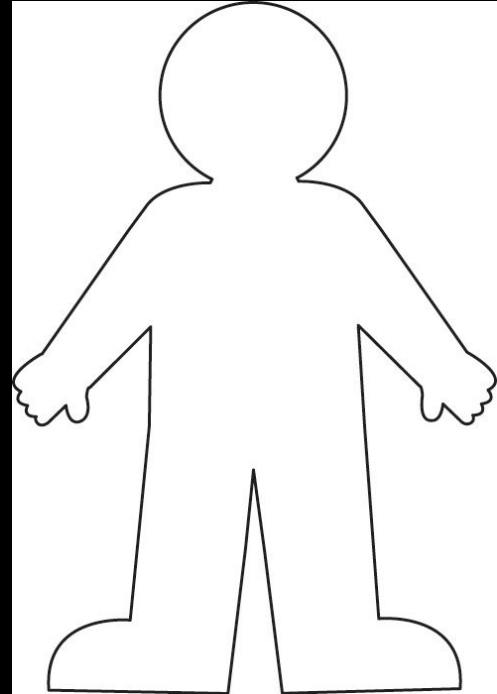
WHEN WE OPERATE OUT OF A DEEPER KNOWLEDGE OF WHO WE ARE:

*we are better equipped to see our kids more clearly and
in turn it informs the way we respond to them*

EXERCISE #2: A MAP OF YOUR KID(S)

Using the handout at your table, work on answering the following questions about each of your kids:

- What motivates him/her?
- How does he/she process information?
- What's his/her learning style?
- How does he/she receive love from others?
- How does he/she show love to others?
- What's most life giving to him/her?
- What triggers him/her?
- What are some fears they have?
- How does he/she handle emotions?





WHEN WE UNDERSTAND OUR KIDS AT A DEEPER LEVEL:

We are better equipped to respond with grace, advocate with courage, and discipline with compassion.

EXERCISE #3: LET'S TIE THIS ALL TOGETHER

On a blank piece of paper:

1. Think back recently to a specific scenario that involved a difficult interaction with one of your children- something you can hold really clearly in your mind.
2. In light of our conversation this evening, what grace and truth could be applied to the situation. 
 - In other words, if you're truthing and gracing yourself and your child, how might the scenario be different?

RESOURCES!

- Exercises 1, 2, and 3 are things you can take with you and continue to use
- The [UC Kids Resource List](#) on the App and Website
 - Youtube Videos
 - Blogs
 - Facebook Pages
 - Instagram Accounts
 - Books
 - Podcasts
- Your UC Community- Parenting is hard. You're doing a great job and you don't have to do it alone.