



SMALL GROUP

LESSON

Small Group Guide: Training Our Children in The Word Not The World

Sermon Overview

This sermon urges parents and grandparents to make it their primary calling to train children in God's Word rather than conforming to the world's values, emphasizing consistent, intentional discipleship in the home.

Key Takeaways

1. **Training children in God's Word must be our PRIMARY priority** as parents and grandparents—above careers, sports, education, and worldly success.
2. **We must live what we teach.** Our children need to see us following Christ in everyday life, not just on Sundays.
3. **Training requires consistency and intentionality.** Biblical instruction should happen throughout the day—morning, evening, driving, eating, and in all daily activities.
4. **We don't have to accept what the world accepts.** Parents have authority over their children's schedules, influences, and values.
5. **Jesus is our only hope.** We cannot perfectly parent on our own—we need God's wisdom, strength, and ultimately His salvation for our children.

Discussion Questions

1. What are the biggest competitors for your time and attention when it comes to training your children spiritually? (Examples: work, sports, school activities, personal hobbies)
2. **Read 3 John 1:4.** What would it look like for your greatest joy to be that your children walk in truth? How might this change your daily decisions?
3. How comfortable are you with apologizing to your children when you're wrong? Why is modeling repentance important?
4. **What are some things the world says are "normal" for children that contradict biblical values?** (Examples: unlimited screen time, immodest clothing, missing church for sports)
5. What does "family discipleship" currently look like in your home? What would you like it to look like?
6. The sermon emphasized eating meals together without devices. What practical barriers prevent this in your family, and how might you overcome them?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge (Choose 1-2):

FOR PARENTS:

- Establish device-free family dinner time at least 3 times this week. Use this time to talk about God, the day's events, and connect relationally.
- Identify one worldly standard you've accepted that contradicts biblical values. Discuss with your spouse/co-parent how to address it.
- Create a bedtime or morning routine that includes scripture reading or prayer with your children.
- Apologize to your child for something you've done wrong, modeling repentance and forgiveness.
- Evaluate your family's schedule. What activities might need to be reduced or eliminated to prioritize spiritual training?

FOR GRANDPARENTS:

- Reach out to your grandchildren this week with an intentional spiritual conversation or Bible story.
- Pray specifically for each grandchild's spiritual development daily.
- Send a scripture or word of encouragement to your grandchildren.