

Intentional Parenting

Family Discipleship by Design

“To become a more powerful parent, we must become a more godly person---a person dedicated to dependence on God.” Robert Kellemen

- **WELCOME AND PRAYER**

 - **THE IMPORTANCE OF PARENTS DISCIPLING THEIR KIDS**
 - **It's about knowing Jesus.**
 - *Jeremiah 9:23-24; John 17:3; Phil 3:7-8; Phil 1:21*
 - **It's about living out the Scriptures.**
 - *Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:4*
 - **It's about the Generations to follow.**
 - *Psalm 78:1-11; Psalm 145:4; Exodus 10:2*
 - **It's the most sobering responsibility of parents and grandparents.**
 - *Proverbs 4:23*
 - *Hebrews 4:13; II Cor 5:9-10*
 - **It's making the most of our Time.**
 - *Ephesians 5:15-16*
 - **It's the greatest kindness given toward our kids and grandkids**
 - *Ephesians 6:1-4*
 - *By Design*
 - *Ephesians 5:1 tell us to be imitators of God. What is God like? He is holy (I Peter 1:16) He is love (I John 4:8). We are to be to our children what God is to us and them. Loving them with a holy love. We are designed to reflect God's holy love. This is gospel living in front of our children. (Like the 4 friends did with the paralytic. They place their friend right in front of Jesus!*
 - *Paul tells parents to give to children what He has created in them to long for in their hearts from their parents: Holy Love/Grace & Instruction.*
 - *Paul tells children to give to their parents what God created in them to long for in their hearts from their children: Honoring Love.*
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- **THE MIRROR**
 - **God's Word**
 - *“Seeing our own imperfection and vulnerability is vital to the process of family discipleship. That is why we look to the mirror of Scripture. Like a mirror, the Bible exposes us and tells us the truth about ourselves. We often you fall short of God's design for discipleship in the home.”*

 - **Humility**
 - *“Look in the mirror with me. Let's gaze for a moment at all of our flaws and imperfections, and admit them freely to ourselves. Then let's get on our knees, and thank the Lord that despite all of our ugliness, he has redeemed us. He died in our place and for our sin on the cross, even while we were sinners. Let us thank the Lord for our salvation and ask him to do a work in our homes for his glory.”*

- **Love**
 - *Paul concluded 1 Corinthians 13 with these words, “So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” The reason we ought to pursue family discipleship is love! Love for our children, no matter what age they may be.¹*
 - **1 Timothy 1:5** But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

“Grace is a supernatural gift given to believers to know and do God’s will.” Bill Thrasher

- **A HOME OF G.R.A.C.E.**
 - **It is a gospel of GRACE**
 - *1:2 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”*
 - *1:6 “to the praise of the glory of His grace which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.”*
 - *1:7-8 “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.”*
 - *2:8 “For by grace you have been saved”*
 - **God Dependent Families --- Parental Dedication**
 - *Ephesians 5:1-2, 17 and Ephesians 6:10*
 - *The bookend passages for marriage and family passages.*
 - *Parenting requires supernatural empowerment!*
 - **Revelation Based Family Wisdom --- Parental Discernment**
 - *Ephesians 1:13; 4:15; 5:15-17; 5:26; 6:4; and 6:17*
 - **Accepting and Affirming Grace Relationships --- Parental Devotion**
 - *Ephesians 4:1-3, 29-32*
 - **Care-Fronting the Heart --- Parental Discipline**
 - *Ephesians 4:15; Ephesians 6:4*
 - **Equipping for Life --- Parental Discipleship²**
 - *Ephesians Ephesians 6:4*
 - *God’s Parental Prime directive: Paul pens 131 verses about gospel-dependent living in Ephesians 1-5 before he offers us one verse on parenting ---- Ephesians 6:4*
 - *Disciple with Ephesians*
 - *What the Father is like...*
 - *What Jesus is like...*
 - *What the Holy Spirit is like...*
 - *Our Position and Condition*
 - *What the gospel is, how to rest in it, and how to live it out.*
- **ENGAGE PRINCIPLE OF THE WEEK**
 - *Consecrate our home to knowing and serving the Lord*
- **DISCUSSION IN SMALL GROUPS**
- **GROUP QUESTION**
- **PRAYER IN SMALL GROUPS**

¹ *Thompson, Tad. Intentional Parenting: Family Discipleship by Design (p. 14-18). Cruciform Press. Kindle Edition.*

² *Gospel-Centered Family Counseling by Robert W. Kelleman*