# **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### 4th / 5th GRADE BACK TO SCHOOL BONFIRE

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

Kids will get the chance to get to know other students their age - as well as their awesome leaders! Sign up on the events page!

### YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES BBQ

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

Married couples in your 20's & 30's - join us for a great afternoon of BBQ and games, and get to know some other married couples!



PERSONAL I	VC	TES:
------------	----	------





### **NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!**

LIFE GROUPS are smaller groups of people who commit to meet together consistently for the purpose of growing relationally and spiritually.

Browse all the Life Groups option in the Westbridge Church App and sign up today!

Let us know if you have ANY questions!

## MFSSAGE NOTES

## Picture Perfect // Week 1

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior's hands. How joyful is the man whose quiver is full of them! **Psalm 127:3-5** 

- 1. Your role is not to protect your kids, but to \_\_\_PREPARE\_\_ them!
- 2. Your top priority as a parent is to retain \_\_\_INFLUENCE\_\_.

Parents, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. **Ephesians 6:4** 

3. The quality of your <u>FRIENDSHIP</u> determines your influence.

How to retain influence with your kids:

1. Set healthy <u>BOUNDARIES</u>.

Discipline your children while there is still hope of influencing their future, so as not to play a part in their destruction. **Proverbs 19:18** 

2. Let the <u>CONSEQUENCES</u> to the screaming.

Fools are quick to express their anger, but wise people are patient and control themselves. **Proverbs 29:11** 

3. Affirm <u>IDENTITY</u> as you address <u>BEHAVIOR</u>.

Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal. **Proverbs 12:18** 

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. **Romans 8:15-16** 

# LIFE GROUPS

#### **DISCUSSION GUIDE**



These questions are designed to help groups discuss the weekend teaching while building relationships with each other and growing in our faith!

## September 4th / 7th, 2025

## **WARM UP**

1. Did you take family photos as a kid? Olan Mills, J.C. Penny, or something else?



## **KNOW IT**

- 1. Read **Psalm 127:3-5.** How does seeing children as a gift from God reshape the way we view the challenges of parenting?
- 2. Read *Ephesians 6:4* and *Hebrews 12:5-13.* What do these verses teach us about the difference between discipline that provokes anger and discipline that produces growth?
- 2. Parenting or relationships with kids can sometimes feel overwhelming. What are some of your biggest worries when it comes to parenting or influence with kids in your life?
- 3. Read **Deuteronomy 6:4-9.** What practical ways can parents or mentors weave faith into everyday life and conversations?
- 4. Read **Romans 8:15-16.** How does God affirm our **identity** even when our **behavior** falls short? What can this teach us about encouraging kids while addressing their behavior?



## **SHARE IT**

- 1. Our role as parents is not to protect our kids, but prepare them. What is the difference between protecting and preparing? Have you see either approach play out in your family?
- 2. Jeremiah talked about the 4 stages of parenting: Nurse, King/Queen, Coach, Friend. Which stage do you relate to most right now? What's been the most rewarding and most challenging part?
- 3. Words shape identity. Can you share a time when someone's words positive or negative shaped the way you saw yourself?



## **LIVE IT**

- 1. Which of these three practices to you need to grow in the most right now and why?
  - Setting healthy boundaries
  - Letting the consequences to the screaming
  - Affirming identity while addressing behavior
- 2. "Later is longer!" How can keeping the long-term relationship in mind not just today's compliance change the way you handle conflict or discipline?
- 3. What's one practical way you can **speak life** into a child this week affirming their identity instead of simply correcting their behavior?