

TALK IT OVER

Parenting Through the Ages

Week 5: *Family Time – Adult Children*

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Icebreaker: What do you best about being an adult?

Luke 2:52 (NLT) Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.

Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV) As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Words of Life

1. A Sense of Identity: *"This is my Son..."*

Greek Word: huios (hwee-os') – literally, a son by birth or adoption; figuratively, anyone sharing the same nature as their Father

1 John 3:1 (NLT) See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!

Discussion Questions:

- ✓ What identity was passed down from your parent(s) to you?
- ✓ What are things you want to pass down to your children?
- ✓ What things need to end in this generation?

2. Unconditional Love: *...whom I love...*

Greek Word: agape – love that is a choice, a deliberate striving for another's highest good, and is demonstrated through action.

Scripture: *John 3:16 (NLT) "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

3. Affirmation: ...with him I am well-pleased.”

Greek Word: : eudokeó (yoo-dok-eh'-o) eú, "good, well" (eutopia) and dokeō, "to think, seem").

Scripture: *1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT) So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.*

Discussion Questions

1. Of the three statements God spoke to Jesus, which have your parent(s) communicated clearly to you as an adult?
2. Which ones (if any) were either not communicated or perhaps under-communicated?
3. Why do you think God chose to say these things to Jesus in such a public format?
4. For those who are parents, which of these three are the easiest to communicate to your children? Which is the most challenging?

Action Items

1. **As we move into the holiday season, may it a point to communicate each of the three phrases to your adult children (where applicable). Better yet, put it in writing as well and give it to them for Christmas.**