

Sermon 8.16.26 - Parenting

August 13, 2026

FAMILY MATTERS

Leo Loughmiller • Family Matters: Parenting • August 16, 2026

Main Idea: Biblical parenting isn't about raising perfect kids. It's about faithfully pointing our kids toward a perfect Savior.

1. Follow Jesus: Seek Jesus before you try to shape your kids.

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you." (Matthew 6:33, CSB)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me." (John 15:5, CSB)

Before you seek His hand for your children, seek His face for yourself.

Reflection: If your kids followed Jesus the way they see you

following Jesus, where would it take them?

2. Show Jesus: Let your discipleship shape their discipleship

“Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. These words that I am giving you today are to be on your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” (Deuteronomy 6:5-7, CSB)

God’s Word has to shape the parent before it can shape the parenting.

We want them to say: “My parents needed Jesus—and they trusted Him.”

The absence of a past doesn’t mean the absence of a future.

Reflection: What if God is using you to start something in your family that you never got to experience yourself?

“Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ.” (1 Corinthians 11:1, CSB)

3. Trust Jesus: Surrender what you cannot control

“Sons are indeed a heritage from the LORD, offspring, a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons born in one’s youth. Happy is the man who has filled his quiver with them.” (Psalm 127:3-5a, CSB)

“God has tasked parents with many things, but nowhere in his Word has he tasked you with the responsibility to create heart change.” - Paul David Tripp

“...Let the little children come to me; don’t stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” (Mark 10:14, CSB)

Our job is faithfulness. God’s job is transformation.

The gospel frees us from believing everything depends on our performance.

Reflection: What are you carrying today that actually belongs in God's hands?