

**Gospel – Powered Grandparenting**  
*Pillars of Faithfulness*  
Jeff and Marie Caulkins

*"We will not conceal them from their children, but tell to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers That they should teach them to their children, That the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be born, That they may arise and tell them to their children, that they should put their confidence in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments," Psalms 78:4-7*

**Questions we need to ask**

- How does God want me to be intentionally involved in my grandchildren's lives for His glory?
- Why does God want me to invest in their lives?
- How does applying the gospel of Jesus Christ to the role of grandparenting work in real life, including some of those especially challenging situations often faced today

◆ **What does God say about Grandparents?**

- Ask yourself:
  - How does God see our grandchildren and what does God have to say about their lives?
    - Jesus valued children (Mark 10:14)
    - God clearly presents children as a blessing (Psalm 27:3-5; Psalm 128:3-4)
    - Our children and grandchildren are created in God's image (Gen. 1:27)
    - We are all created to be dependent upon God (Prov. 1:7a)
    - We need to help them understand that we exist to glorify God (1 Cor 10:31; Rev.4:1)

◆ **Just as we need a Savior, so do our grandchildren**

- We all want our own way and not God's way; our grandchildren are no different (Isaiah 53:6; Psalm 51:5)
- Our grandchildren need a Savior, and we are not Him
- The Gospel must be rooted in our own hearts so that we can point our grandchildren to Christ.
- Treasure God's word in our own hearts (Psalm 119:11)
- Know and use God's word in talking with your grandchildren about the Gospel
- \*Practice presenting the complete gospel:
  - God is holy (Isaiah 43:7)
  - We live for ourselves instead of God. This is called sin (Rom. 3:10-12, 23)
  - Sin deserves punishment (Rom. 6:23)
  - Jesus is the only person who never sinned (2 Cor 5:21; Heb. 4:15; John 8:29)
  - Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty that we sinners earned (Rom. 5:6-11)
  - Jesus rose from the dead and is alive in Heaven (1 Cor 15:20)
  - You must repent of your sin (Acts 2:38)
  - You must put your trust in Jesus as the only way to be right with God (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)
  - Ask Him to forgive you and to make you His child (Rom. 10:9-13)
  - Share God's promises (John 3:16)

◆ **Developing God-honoring relationships with my grandchildren's parents**

- One of the best things you can do for your grandchildren is to love their parents
- Respect your children as God's appointed, primary spiritual mentors of your grandchildren
- Honor biblical boundaries
- Embrace your unique role as grandparents
- Support your children by teaching your grandchildren to love and respect their parents
- Support your grandchildren's parents through words of encouragement

◆ **Intentional grandparenting**

- What does it mean to be intentional as a grandparent?
  - Intentionally being involved in our grandchildren's worlds
  - Intentionally inviting our grandchildren into our world
  - Intentionally pursuing adventures with our grandkids
  - Intentionally engaging our grandchildren in meaningful conversation
  - Intentionally affirming our grandchildren

◆ **Praying for our grandchildren**

- Pray for yourselves as grandparents
- Pray for your grandchildren's parents
- Pray for your grandchildren
- Pray with your grandchildren

Recommended resources:

*Grandparenting with Grace* by Larry E. McCall, New Growth Press, 2019

*Biblical Grandparenting* by Dr. Josh Mulvihill, Bethany House, 2018

*Long Distance Grandparenting* by Wayne Rice, Bethany House, 2019

*Grandparenting, Loving Our Children's Children* by Phyllis J. Le Peau and Andrew T. Le Peau, Intersity Press, 2017.

*Do I Need Boundaries* by Jim Newheiser, New Growth Press, 2025