

# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **AS FOR ME & MY HOUSE**

Message: **Part 2 – The ART of Parenting**

April 15, 2018



## **Connect & Pray** (20min)

**ART ADMIRATION:** What style/genre of ART is your favorite &/or Who is your favorite Artist? Why?

**Opening Prayer:** Read [Psalm 145](#) and then echo this Prayer with short-sentence Prayers as a Group.

**LET'S GROW:** *GOD - shape and grow my character in 2018 by helping me be more intentional in practicing the spiritual disciplines of Prayer, Bible Reading & Journaling.*

a. What have you been focusing on in your personal *devotions* or Bible reading lately, and what is 1 way that you have been encouraged, challenged or changed?

b. What are your *devotion* plans for the next week or two? (bible reading/prayer/journaling)

\*Do you have a set schedule, place or focus/plan? How can we encourage you in this area?

## **Sunday Message Feedback** (45min)

\***Speaker:** Pastor Shawn Vandop.

1. **EVERY TRIBE & TONGUE:** Read [Daniel 7:13-14](#) & [Revelation 7:9](#). God loves every tribe!

a. What is your “tribal” background? *Which nations/countries is your family from?*

b. Which languages can you speak? Which language would you like to speak if you could learn one?

2. **Message Feedback:** What is one thing that impacted you from Sunday’s Message?

3. **The ART of Parenting:**

a. When it comes to Parenting there are two extremes that parents lean towards:

>> “Head in the Sand” and “Easily Panicked.”

: Which few words would you use to describe the type of parenting style you experienced while growing up?

: If you are a parent which extreme do you tend to lean towards? Discuss.

b. Can you think of 1-2 things you were taught by your parents or parental figures that made a lasting impact on you, and that you want to pass on?

c. Share 1-2 traditions from your upbringing that you still practice today?

d. When you think about the first family (God and his kids -- Adam & Eve) does it encourage you that a perfect parent (God) and a perfect environment (Eden) and no sin nature -- still produced rebellious kids? Discuss.

4. Read [Proverbs 22:6](#) – Pastor Shawn explained that this is not a promise but a proverb.

**What is a proverb?** A proverb are pithy statements that describe how life *generally* works.

Why is it important to not see this verse as a promise? Discuss.

5. We were reminded that **Children tend to follow our example more than the words we say.**

Yet often we spend more time talking *to* or *at* people with less focus on the example we're setting.

a. Read **Galatians 5:22-23** – This scripture gives us a list of things we can practice to set a good example for those closest to us. As you read through each fruit of the Spirit, pick 2-3 of them to write down and give an example of how you could demonstrate each of them to your children, friends or family.

[ LOVE-JOY-PEACE-PATIENCE-KINDNESS-GOODNESS-FAITHFULNESS-GENTLENESS & SELF-CONTROL ]

b. Why/How is the Holy Spirit and our relationship with Him essential?

6. **Raising Adults vs Raising Kids**

a. Have you ever thought of raising kids with the perspective/vision of what they will be at 30 years old?

b. How does that change the way we approach parenting?

c. If you have grown children would this perspective have changed anything you did raising your kids?

7. **Parenting Points:** Which parenting insight(s) jumped out the most to you during this message?

*Discuss these Parenting points. \*When it comes Parenting....*

- Make sure we are aiming at the RIGHT GOAL.
- The EXAMPLE WE SET will always trump the WORDS WE SAY.
- Model a proper respect for AUTHORITY.
- Resist a KID-CENTRIC marriage.
- Take a genuine INTERESTE in their WORLD.
- Pick your BATTLES carefully.

## Application & Prayer (15min)

**CHALLENGE:** Consider and respond to the following question as we prepare to PRAY for one another.

Regardless of whether your relational status or age -- As you think through this week's teaching, is there anything you'd like to work on to help you set a better example for family or friends in the upcoming weeks?

**Consider this when learning to Pray as a Group:**

**PRAYER is an important part of being in Life Group.**

Over the years we've found that group prayer goes better when we follow three simple guidelines.

**WE PRAY FOR ONE TOPIC AT A TIME** - Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request either before prayer begins or during the prayer time. Once a topic is introduced, the group focuses on that request alone. Once it's covered, the group moves on to the next topic.

**PRAY MORE THAN ONCE** - Because the group is focusing on one topic at a time, each person is encouraged to pray several times during the prayer time for those topics they feel most led to pray about. No one is required to pray.

**WE KEEP OUR PRAYERS SHORT AND SIMPLE** - Group prayer goes better when members keep their prayers short and to the point. When someone prays for a long time, it's hard for the other members to stay focused and long prayers tend to intimidate those who are just learning to pray out loud in a group. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate and pray, but no one is required to pray out loud

**>> PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.**

# Announcements

## MAIN STREET WOMEN: *Wonder Weekend*

Fri/Sat April 27&28.

## PRAYER SUMMIT

Sun. April 29. 6pm-7:30pm. Main Street Auditorium. *Worship – Prayer – Communion.*

## MAIN STREET MEN: *MAN BREAKFAST*

Sat. May 5. 9am. Main Street Church - Conference Hall. Tickets - \$5

## BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. June 3. During the Morning Services. Info & Registration - [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism)

## EXPLORE – Resources to consider on PARENTING.

Scripture Search: <http://www.openbible.info/topics/parenting>

Websites:

<http://www.therenewedfamily.com> / <https://www.focusonthefamily.ca> / <https://www.familylifecanada.com>

Book: (available on Amazon.ca, ChristianBook.com, Christian Bookstores)

[\*Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family.\*](#) Paul David Tripp.

Quotes:

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/48223100-parenting-14-gospel-principles-that-can-radically-change-your-family>