

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **PARENTHOOD**

Message: **Part 1 – The #1 Trend that Shapes a Child’s Life**

*Speaker: Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor.

September 15, 2019



Connect (30min) – a good time to share refreshments.

NEW Groups or Groups with NEW Members: Share the Following.

- Share your NAME
- How long have you lived in Chilliwack & how long have you attended Main Street Church?
- 3 KEY THINGS: 1 Key Person in your Life / 1 Key Place in your Life / 1 Key Event or Interest in your Life

ALL Groups

- Share 1-2 Highlights from your Summer.
- Share 1-2 things that you are looking forward to this Fall season?

CONFIRM the Details of your Life Group:

- Names & Contact Info (ph/email)
- Meeting Day/Time/Location
- Snack Rotation

Sunday Message Feedback (30min)

1. PARENTHOOD:

- When you hear the word “**Parenthood**” what comes to mind for you?
- What is an embarrassing moment you’ve had as a parent or experienced with your parents?
- What is one thing you appreciate about your parents?
What is one thing you want to leave behind or do differently from your parents?

***The importance of PARENTHOOD applies to everyone in some way...**

We’ve had parents, are parents, potentially parents, know parents, and have the opportunity to know our Heavenly Father as part of His eternal Family.

***The idea & importance of PARENTHOOD comes from GOD** and is deeply connected with His character, heart, and plans for humanity.

2. Message Feedback: What jumped out at you from Sunday’s message?

3. READ [1 Samuel 1](#). Share the reading as a group.

**Encourage your Group to bring their Bibles to Church & Group.*

- Do you have any general observations, insights or questions from reading this story?
- What do you learn about God? What do you learn about the people in the story?
- What can you apply to your life from the story in 1 Samuel 1?

4. **Shawn gave us a number – 6570 – the number of days from your child’s birth to the day they turn 18.**
 - a. Does it cause you think about Parenting in a different way? Discuss.
 - b. How does that number impact the way you approach Parenting?

5. ***The #1 trend that shapes generations (your children’s lives) is Parenting!***
 - a. Does this fact cause you to think about the influence of parents differently?
 - b. What are some reasons parents lose their potential to influence their children?
 - c. How do we maintain a positive influence in our children’s lives?

6. **If you are a Christ follower – how has knowing JESUS changed how you approach parenting?**
 - a. What does He reveal about God’s Father/Parent Heart, and heart for parents?
 - b. How does His grace, truth & love for us inspire and guide parenting?

7. **READ [1 Samuel 1:10-11](#).** In this passage of Scripture, we see Hannah surrendering her circumstances to the Lord. Why did she do this and why do we need to do likewise?

8. **READ [1 Samuel 1:26-28](#)**
 What did Hannah do with her son, Samuel?
 How does knowing children are on loan from the Lord impact one’s view of parenting?
 Have you ever thought about parenting as stewardship? Why/why not? Discuss.

Application (15min)

***Share with the group** -- three characteristics that you desire your child/children/grandchildren to have in their adult lives? What are some key steps you can take to begin to develop a plan for how you are going to share these truths with them.

***MEMORIZE: 1 Samuel 2:1-2**

Then Hannah prayed:

“My heart rejoices in the LORD! The LORD has made me strong.

Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me.

² No one is holy like the LORD! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.”

***Share your PARENTHOOD Questions & Feedback** with your Life Group Leader throughout the series, and with Pastor Shawn or Pastor Eryn. We would love to hear from you.

Check out the *Extra PARENTHOOD Resources (p.4-5) for your own enrichment.

***PRAY for the Parents in your lives this week!**

Prayer (15min)

***Invite everyone to participate in Prayer**, but make it clear that there’s no pressure or expectation.

***PRAY TOGETHER:** Stay together as a group, or break into smaller groups for prayer.

“Based on our Scripture & Discussion how can we Pray for you this week?” – Pray for One Another.

***Our NEXT LIFE GROUP MEETING: DATE / TIME / LOCATION. SNACK DUTY: _____.**

Announcements

Sunday Series: PARENTHOOD

Sept.15: *The #1 Trend That Shapes a Child's Life.*

Sept.22: *Custom Made - Why One Size Parenting Doesn't Work.*

Sept.29: *What Are You Raising? Human Beings or Human Doings?*

Oct.6: *Parenting Do Overs - What Parents Would Do Differently if They Had the Chance.*

Hearing God Workshop

Mondays. Sept.23, 30 Oct. 7, 21, 28. 7pm-8:30pm. Chapel. www.mainstreetchurch.ca/hearing-god

Supper & The Summit

Sun. September 29th. *FREE Family Dinner at 5pm * Worship-Prayer-Communion at 6pm-7:30pm.

Join us the last Sunday of each month Sept-June (not inc. December).

Next Steps

Sun. October 6th. 12:15pm-1:30pm. Conference Room A. www.mainstreetchurch.ca/next-steps

Partnership Class

Sun. October 6th. 6pm-8pm. Main Street Chapel. www.mainstreetchurch.ca/partnership

Set Free Retreat

October 18-19. www.mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free

Empower Retreat

October 29-30. *Set Free Retreat is a pre-requisite.* Details & Registration available soon.

Extra PARENTHOOD Resources

[Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family](#)

by Paul David Tripp

[Raising Kingdom Kids: Giving Your Child a Living Faith](#)

by Dr. Tony Evans

[Parent Unscripted](#)

[Future Family](#)

Teaching Series with Andy Stanley

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting>

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

https://www.gotquestions.org/search.php?zoom_query=parenting

<https://www.desiringgod.org/topics/parenting/all>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/three-essentials-for-christian-parenting>

<https://www.christianbook.com/page/christian-parenting>

<https://www.christianparenting.org>

Blended Families: <https://www.smartstepfamilies.com> – with Ron Deal.

[Doing Life With Your Adult Children](#)

by Jim Burns

[The Power of a Praying Parent](#)

by Stormie Omartian

[Boundaries with Kids: How Healthy Choices Grow Healthy Children](#)

by Henry Cloud

[Boundaries with Teens: When to Say Yes, How to Say No](#)

by John Townsend

Christian Apologetics for Parents/Kids:

[Keeping Your Kids on God's Side: 40 Conversations to Help Them Build a Lasting Faith](#)

by Natasha Crain

[Talking with Your Kids about God: 30 Conversations Every Christian Parent Must Have](#)

by Natasha Crain & Sean McDowell

[What's In Your Control as a Christian Parent? – Interview on OneMinuteApologetist](#)

[So The Next Generation Will Know: Preparing Young Christians for a Challenging World](#)

by Sean McDowell & J. Warner Wallace

[5 Things Christian Parents Must Do To Raise Godly Children in a Secular World](#)

Crossexamined.org with Dr. Frank Turek

[Case For Christ for Kids](#) (& series of *Case For...For Kids* books)

by Lee Strobel

[Cold-Case Christianity For Kids: Investigate Jesus With a Real Detective](#)

by J. Warner Wallace

[Mama Bear Apologetics: Empowering Your Kids to Challenge Cultural Lies](#)

by Hillary Morgan Ferrer

[Alpha Youth Series](#)

[OneMinuteApologetist YouTube Channel](#)

Father God:

[The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith](#)

by Timothy Keller

[Abba's Child: The Cry of the Heart for Intimate Belonging](#)

by Brennan Manning

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/abba>

[The Great House of God: A Home for Your Heart](#)

by Max Lucado

Bible:

[The Bible Project – YouTube Channel](#)

<https://www.biblegateway.com>

YouVersion Bible App : <https://www.youversion.com>

<https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app-for-kids>

[The Action Bible](#)

by Sergio Cariello

[The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name](#)

[Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing](#)

Sally Lloyd-Jones