

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Questions
October 4, 2015



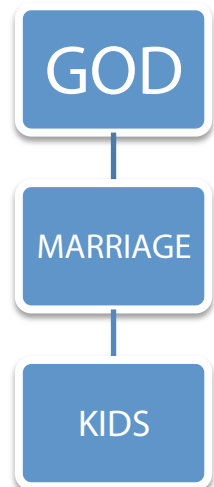
The Ideal Family – Week #2

INTRODUCTION:

1. Think about the shows that are common today – can you think of a modern TV show that reflects a healthy parent / child relationship?
2. Be honest with yourself. Draw your family's current organizational chart with a hierarchy of the following things – God, marriage, career, kids, sports. How does it compare to the one that Paul presented on Sunday morning in his message?

DIVE IN:

1. Paul shared the idea that the biblical goal for parenting is “to teach and train your children to prepare them to leave home.” Do you have a defined goal for your parenting? If so, what is it? If not, how do you think this lack of specific direction might be affecting your parenting effectiveness?
2. Take a look at some of the passages that Paul shared on Sunday. How do these passages give us a better idea of what God's organizational chart looks like for the family?



Genesis 2:24 - “This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - “Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Proverbs 22:6 – “Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.”

3. Paul shared that our ministry philosophy for Next Gen is “Partnering with parents to help kids and students become fully engaged followers of Jesus.” What does it look like for you to own the spiritual development of your child, with the Church being a partner and a resource instead of the primary voice of faith in your child's life?
4. One of the challenges from the message was to “demote your kids”. Get practical for a few minutes – what does that conversation look like in your home? How do you and your spouse

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get on the same page with this idea and then how do you communicate it in a loving but direct way to your children?

5. As you “limit company perks” in your kids’ lives, how do you as a parent say no in a way that isn’t punishing, but instead productive? Remember the goal in mind – for your kids to be prepared to leave.

NOW WHAT:

1. What part of this week’s message has had the greatest impact on you? What truth(s) has God taught you through the message and our group discussion?
2. What do you need to do with that truth this week to become a fully engaged follower of Jesus?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Sacred Marriage Connection Groups –
Your marriage is more than a covenant with another person - its is a spiritual discipline designed to help you know God better, trust him more fully, and love him more deeply. What if God’s primary intent for your marriage isn’t to make you happy... but holy? Join other RC3 couples to dive into this question through a 6 week DVD study series.

Sacred Marriage (Herd) – Wednesdays @ 6:30pm – Maineville – No Childcare

Sacred Marriage (LeCompte) – Fridays @ 6:30pm – Mason – No Childcare

Groups launch in early October. For more info visit: RiversCrossing.com/Groups

- An Open Letter to My Children – Blog Post
 - <http://sacredgroundstickyfloors.com/2015/09/25/an-open-letter-to-my-children-youre-not-that-great/>
- *Permission to Parent: How to Raise Your Child with Love and Limits* – Robin Berman, MD