

# **PARENTING WITH THE END IN VIEW**

## **SESSION 1 – PROCLAIM AND PRESENT: THE AIMS OF CHRISTIAN PARENTING**

### **INTRODUCTION**

“Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.” (Colossians 1:28-29)

### **1. THE AIM OF CHRISTIAN PARENTING**

“...that we may present everyone...”

“...mature in Christ.”

“[Mature] connotes the quality of being so wholehearted in one's devotion to the Lord that one can be said to be blameless in conduct (see esp. Matt. 5:48; 19:21; Eph. 4:13; Heb. 5:14; Jas. 1:4b).”

Doug Moo, *The Letters to the Colossians and to Philemon*, 161

### **2. THE METHODS OF CHRISTIAN PARENTING**

“Him we proclaim...”

“You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

Deuteronomy 6:7

“We must not expect all things at once. We must remember what children are, and teach them as they are able to bear. Their minds are like a lump of metal not to be forged and made useful at once, but only by a succession of little blows. Their understandings are like narrow-necked vessels: we must pour in the wine of knowledge gradually, or much of it will be spilled and lost.”

J. C. Ryle, *The Duties of Parents*, 6

“...warning everyone...” and “...teaching everyone...”

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"His father [David] had never at any time displeased him [Adonijah] by asking, 'Why have you done thus and so?'"

1 Kings 1:6

"...with all wisdom..."

### 3. THE MEANS OF CHRISTIAN PARENTING

"For this I toil, struggling..."

"...with all his energy that he powerfully works within me."

"And the ultimate aim is... to balance human effort with the enabling grace of God in Christ."

Doug Moo, *The Letters to the Colossians and to Philemon*, 163

## CONCLUSION

"Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:7-9