



# Parents of Young Kids Class

Highs and Lows



*Pair up with another couple or get into groups of 3-4:*

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1. *What are 1-2 challenges you are facing right now in parenting your kid(s)?*
  2. *What is a recent highlight from parenting your child(ren)?*
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## God's Purpose for Parenting



### Whose Child is This?

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*Children belong first to God, and then to their parents.*

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**Ezek 18:4**

*Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine. ESV*

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## The Purpose of Parenting is to Train Godly Adults

### **Kids that Love God**

*Key Verse for our Time:*

#### **Deuteronomy 6:5-9**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. **Impress them on your children...** ... **Talk about them** when you **sit at home** and when you **walk along the road**, when you **lie down** and when you **get up**. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

#### **Kids that are Godly in Character**

- Walk with God amid the ups and downs of life.
- Live upright, godly lives amid a crooked generation, doing good.

#### **Malachi 2:15**

Didn't the LORD make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are his. And what does he want? **Godly children from your union.** So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth. NLT

#### **Ephesians 6:1-3**

Children, obey your parents **in the Lord**, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." ESV

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*The aim is godliness, not success.*

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# KIDs

## Kindness

**KINDNESS** functions like a rear hatch/door of a minivan - lets you easily and quickly load a lot of stuff in the back.

An **ATMOSPHERE** of love

- Atmosphere = *a surrounding influence or environment; the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, or work.*

## Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger ESV

Fathers, do not irritate *and* provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to resentment], but rear them [tenderly]

Ways to show **KINDNESS**:

- Communication of affection
- Helping the child accomplish his legitimate goals
- An attitude of **COMPASSION** toward your child's limitations (Eph. 4:32)

## Eph 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

## Instruction



# KIDs

**INSTRUCTION** functions like the **body** of the minivan – it provides way to **store** things and **keep** them inside the vehicle. It provides structure and stability.

**Proverbs 22:6**

Train up a child in the way he should go [teaching him to seek God’s wisdom and will for his abilities and talents], Even when he is old he will not depart from it. AMP

**Discipline**

**DISCIPLINE** functions like the seatbelt/airbags of the minivan – it keeps a child safe from serious injury.

**COACH**

- Encourage
- Give helpful feedback and insight
- Correct and show how to improve performance (attitude, skills, insights)
- Appropriately hold child to completion of assignments and tasks
  - Calling them forward to Obedience the first time.

Punish **REBELLION**

Goal: Diminish the desire to rebel again

**Prov 6:20**

. . . keep your father’s commands and do not forsake your mother’s teaching.

**Prov 6:23**

for these commands are a lamp . . . and the corrections of discipline are the way to life

**Prov 13:24**

he who spares the rod hates his son

**Heb 12:5-12**

do not make light of the Lord’s discipline . . . because the Lord disciplines those He loves . . .

**It is easy to get discouraged with Discipline. Instead:**

- Stay Humble
- Get Input

- Ask God for Help

## Supernatural Power



**SUPERNATURAL POWER** functions like the minivan's engine – it gets the minivan going and keeps it going.

God's supernatural power is the engine that keeps both parents and the child training process moving forward in the right way.

### James 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

### Isaiah 41:10

fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ways to rely on God's **SUPERNATURAL POWER**:

- Pray for God's help
- Pray that child will
  - Commit their life to Christ early
  - Learn to call on and walk with God himself
- Pray for wisdom as you face new situations

## Examplimg & Explaining



**EXAMPLING & EXPLAINING** functions like the wheels of the minivan – it is where the rubber hits the road.

- Rear wheels - getting power from the engine - propel the vehicle forward
- Front wheels- steer the car in the proper direction

## EXAMPLING & EXPLAINING

- Exempling (rear wheels) - move the training forward
- Explaining (front wheels) - provides direction - the **why's** for the example

### Deuteronomy 11:18-20

You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are **sitting in your house**, and when you are **walking by the way**, and when you **lie down**, and when you **rise**. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

## QUESTIONS

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*Pair up with another couple or get into groups of 3-4:*

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1. *Of the KIDS, which one would help you with your current challenges?*
  2. *What is one step this next week you can take to help your kid(s)?*
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## RESOURCES



Parenting:

[Parenting: Is There an App for That?](#)

[Top 10 Parenting Mistakes](#)

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

Instruction: [Scripture Memory Verses For Kids](#)

Discipline: [Shepherding a Child's Heart](#)

Spiritual Power: [One Another's](#)