



HIGHLANDS FELLOWSHIP

Summer at Highlands • How to Bring Out the Best in Your Kids •

1 Corinthians 13:4-7; Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 22:6 • 06/09/2019

Main Point

You will parent well with Gospel-centered wisdom and understanding. However, these principles don't just apply to parenting. These principles should be applied to all relationships in our life.

Opening Doors

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

Who is someone who brings out the best in you? What does that person do that causes you to respond so well?

Without naming names, who is or has been someone that has brought out the worst in you? What does that person do that causes you to respond so poorly?

Name one thing your parent(s) or someone who brought out the best in you, did well that you want to emulate to bring out the best in your children or others?

God wants to bring out the best in us. When He created the family, He intended it to model how He relates to us as His children. As such, there are some important biblical principles we should embrace that will help us parent well with Gospel-centered wisdom and understanding.

Digging In

Discuss the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ 1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7.

What attributes of love did Paul list in these verses?

When you think about parenting, which of the attributes of love that Paul listed stands out to you the most? Why?

Read verse 5. When it comes to parenting or other relationships, what does it mean to love by not demanding your own way? What doesn't that verse mean for us?

In this week's message, we learned the following principles: Accept their uniqueness. Affirm their value. Trust them with responsibility. Correct them without condemning. Love them unconditionally. Which of these principles relate to the attributes of love listed in 1 Cor. 13:4-7? How so?

Ask a volunteer to read Ephesians 6:4.

In your own words, what was Paul saying here about how to bring out the best in your kids?

What are some of the important ways godly parenting is different from worldly parenting?

How can parents bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord? How does this passage apply to other relationships?

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ PROVERBS 22:6.

Does this verse mean that children in godly homes never leave the faith or make bad choices? If not, what does it mean?

Why is this an important verse to hang onto? How can it help you persevere as a parent?

Each of us, including our children, are ultimately responsible for our own actions. Parents are not responsible for the choices their children make; however they are responsible for modeling and teaching them what it means to live Christian lives. Proverbs 22:6 isn't a promise that children from Christian homes will never make bad choices; it describes, however, the way the family is meant to work. By following God's Word, we can raise children who avoid evil and serve God faithfully.

For you, right now, what is the most challenging part when you think about taking a more active role in teaching faith to your family?

As parents, we can't shirk our responsibility. It is our job to raise our children in a godly way. We must actively do this; we can't hope the church or the schools will take our place. Faithful families teach their faith in a consistent way to the next generation.

Taking It Home

Identify how the truths from the Scripture passages apply directly to your life.

- Accept their uniqueness.
- Affirm their value.
- Trust them with responsibility.

- Correct them without condemning.
- Love them unconditionally.

Of these principles discussed in this week's message, which stands out to you the most, personally, in your own parenting? Why?

What do you need to do differently in the days ahead to bring the best out in your children or others?

What, specifically, can we pray about for your family and children right now?