

JULY 30 & 31 WEEK 2 PARENTING

Michael Kast
How can we have a family that <u>thrives</u> , not just <u>survives</u> ?
Parenting Types:
Goal of Parenting: To successfully hand off the <u>baton</u> <u>of</u> <u>faith</u> to our children. Chuck Swindoll
We worry more about <u>what</u> our children will do than we do about <u>who</u> they become as a person.
Signs you may be a child-centered family:
1. You create situations where your child will <u>succeed</u> rather than preparing them for situations they <u>cannot</u> <u>control</u> .
2. You <u>accelerate</u> childhood milestones and <u>delay</u> adolescent milestones.
Intentional Parenting
Realize it starts with <u>you</u> . If anyone thinks he is important when he is really not, he is only fooling himself. Each person should judge his own actions and not compare himself with others. Then he can be proud for what he himself has done. Each person must be responsible for himself. Galatians 6:3-5
Surround your kids with other <u>trusted</u> . <u>adults</u> Protect the proper family order.
Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Ephesians 5:25
Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right Ephesians 6:1
Begin with the <u>end</u> in mind.
I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking with the Lord. 3 John 1:4

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WEEKLY BIBLE READING

ONE YEAR NEW TESTAMENT	SUNDAY Romans 14:1-23	MONDAY Romans 15:1-22	TUESDAY Romans 15:23-16:7			
this week	july 31	aug 1	aug 2			
WEDNESDAY Romans 15:8-27	THURSDAY 1 Corinthians 1:1-17	FRIDAY 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	SATURDAY 1 Corinthians 2:6-3:4			
aug 3	aug 4	aug 5	aug 6			
WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE Galatians 6:3-5						

{im}perfectfamily



For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Check-in

Last Week's Action Step

From the information we discussed the last time we met, what did you apply to your life in a practical way?

Introduction

Everybody dreams of the picture-perfect family, but few people experience what they've dreamed. As a parent, the key to having a family that thrives and not just survives is being intentional – acknowledging and accepting that it starts with you, protecting the proper family order, and beginning with the end in mind. Even if there's no such thing as the picture-perfect family, it doesn't mean we shouldn't strive for it.

Discussion Questions

1. If you've ever been a coach, teacher, volunteer for children, or just an astute observer, you have probably noticed one of the types of parents identified as "over-the-top." Share your experience with the group. What do you feel was the motivation behind the behavior exhibited by this parent?

(PARENTS) Can you identify any of these "over-the-top" tendencies in your own parenting? If so, explain.

2. Read 3 John 1:4. Michael said, "Parents, often worry more about what their children are doing than who they are becoming." Do you agree or disagree? Why?

What do you feel is the major contributor to this perspective of parenting? How do you feel your own parents did in helping you become who you are today?

(PARENTS) What are some ways to evaluate and correct this tendency in your own parenting?

3. Read Ephesians 5:25 and 6:1. In order to have a family that thrives and not just survives, we must protect the proper family order. How would you say your parents did with this important aspect of family? How did their successes and/or failures in this area affect your ideas about parenting and family?

Small Group Questions Continued

(PARENTS) On a scale of 1-5 how are you doing in the area of protecting the proper family order? What could you do better?

4. Read Galatians 6:3-5. Ultimately, a healthy family starts with you. What specific steps will you take this week to be a godly example to the others in your family? How will you actively participate in protecting the proper family order?

(PARENTS) In addition to the ideas above, what will you do to make sure you are always parenting with the end in mind?

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.					
My action steps are					
I'm accountable for	, and their action steps are				
My memory verse is					
This coming week, I'm praying for:					

Outreach: Groups in Action

OUR CHURCH

We are always looking for volunteers to help in our student ministry. Do you have a passion for middle or high school students? Contact Breanne Schafer if you want more information - bschafer@eclife.org.

OUR COMMUNITY

Haven Sanctuary for Women is hosting a garage sale on August 13 at Greenwood Wesleyan Church, 198 Emerson Avenue, Greenwood. How can you help? Drop off items to donate and come to the sale from 8am-2pm. For more information contact Carol - carola317@aol.com.

OUR WORLD

As a group, write out prayer cards for the leaders of our global mission partners. Bill and Kelli Luallen lead Hope Road in Nicaragua, Rick and Katie Johnson lead Exodo Church in Colombia and Frank Williams leads SMI-Haiti. They face tough decisions and circumstances every day, and could use your prayers and encouragement. Drop your cards off at the Information or Outreach desks during weekend services or the office during the week.