



Family Circus

- We may have little control but we have great **influence**.
- The days are **long** but the years are **short**.

Parents have a God given responsibility:

- Not to make them **religious** but to lead them into a relationship with Jesus.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and strength. Always remember these commands I give you today. Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and walk along the road. Talk about them when you lie down and when you get up. Deuteronomy 6: 5-7

Action Step:

- **Read** them a story about **Jesus**.

Another Action Step:

- Start **praying** with your kids and for your kids.

Action Step to the action step:

Talk with them about their day and when they express a problem say, "**let's talk to Jesus together about that now**".

- Leading our kids takes **time & energy**.

Understand that your instruction time is an investment in their **eternity**.

Pointing our kids to godliness requires us as parents/grandparents to be **intentional**.

- Creating a family can be **accidental**, but having a strong family is intentional. It takes wisdom to have a good family, and it takes understanding to make it strong. Proverbs 24:3-4 (NLT) ...anyone who needs wisdom should ask God, whose very nature is to give to everyone without a second thought, without keeping score. Wisdom will certainly be given to those who ask. James 1:5 (CEB)

The goal of parenting.

- The goal of parenting is creating children that are **godly**.

In God's wise plan, when you married, the two of you became one person in his sight. And what does he want? Godly children from your union. Malachi 2:15 (TLB)

Kid's ask great questions!

- Don't blow off the **questions** your kids ask.

Action Step...

- Allow the questions your kids ask to expand your **theology**.

Action Step to the action step: (find the answer to this question)

Question: How can Jesus live in my heart? Is He a ghost? If He's a ghost is He a friendly ghost? Romans 8:4 (NCV); 1 Corinthians 6:19 (TLB); Colossians 1:27

Parents who nurtured a relationship with God in their kids and maintained a relationship with their kids:

- These parents **disciplined** their kids differently.

Discipline your children while there is hope. Otherwise you will ruin their lives. Proverbs 19:18 (NLT)

Action Step:

When discipline is needed, deal with it **now**, don't make it a lasting event that creates anger.

And now a word to you parents. Don't keep on scolding and nagging your children, making them angry and resentful. Rather, bring them up with the discipline the Lord himself approves... Ephesians 6:4 (TLB)

- These parents were not **afraid** of their kids.

A refusal to correct is a refusal to love;... Proverbs 13:24 (MSG)

Action Step:

When your kids say something that is out of line, **correct** it. (1 Samuel 13:3)

- These parents were **students** of their kids.

...do not nag your children. If you are too hard to please, they may want to stop trying. Proverbs 3:21 (NCV)

Action Step:

Discover something **new** about your child.

You might even ask them what they want to be when they grow up and why do they want to be that?

- These parents cultivated **worship** at home.

Stories we heard from our fathers, counsel we learned at our mother's knee. We're not keeping this to ourselves, we're passing it along to the next generation— God's fame and fortune, the marvelous things he has done. Psalm 78:3-4 (MSG)

Action Step:

Ask your kids what are they most **thankful** to God for?

- These parents were not one way at **church** and another way at **home**.

Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity... Titus 2:7 ESV

Action Step:

Make **godly behavior** a priority in your personal life.

Your parent's behavior, more than their advice, determined whether or not you wanted to be **like** them or **with** them.



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Of all the action steps this week, which of these are toughest for you to apply?
- What is the toughest part of leading your kids to godliness? How have you done with praying with your kids?
- Have your kids asked you tough questions about God? What does it mean to allow their questions to expand your theology? Is that an action step you can take? What did you discover about the question "How can Jesus live in my heart"?
- Talk through the points about parents that nurtured both relationship with God in their kids and relationship with their kids. Which of these spoke most to you? Why?
- Are the action steps something you can apply to your life? Which ones will you apply right away?

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Today's Talk..



“Parenting Pt.2”