

Learning to Team Parent

Study Questions

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.
2. If you have children, what were some of the hardest adjustments to make with your first child? How did it influence your marriage relationship?
3. Read Psalm 127. We often equate easy with blessing. Yet parenting is work. What are some ways that parenting is a blessing, even though it is hard work?
4. Read the quote on the first page about your heart walking outside your body. What are some areas of life that you have experienced the truth of this quote?
5. The advise to make our marriage relationship the priority seems to go against the emphasis in contemporary parenting. What is the focus of parenting today? How does that contrast with the Bible's emphasis on the priority of the husband wife relationship?
6. When we read the creation account, we think of the mandate given is to focusing on population growth. Yet, God's intent was also on parenting. How should knowing God's emphasis on parenting challenge us as parents?
7. Pastor suggested six essentials to "Team Parenting." What are some reasons that it is important for you and your spouse to make time for each other? What are some barriers to accomplishing this?
8. Out of the six essentials to "Team Parenting" was there one area that stood out to you? Share with your group.
9. What is the take away from the poem "the clay" for us that are currently or will be future parents?

Digging Deeper

10. Pick one Essential to Team Parenting that would most benefit your marriage and begin to work on it this week.

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Happily Ever After

Sunday October 11, 2015

"Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."
Psalm 127:3-5 ESV

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6 ESV

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."
Ephesians 6:4 ESV

"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 ESV

"He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;"
Psalm 78:5-8a ESV

**The decision to have a child is momentous.
It is forever to decide to have your heart
go walking outside your body.**

Elizabeth Stone

Make My Marriage a _____

“Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” Genesis 2:18 ESV

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth..”” Genesis 1:27–28a ESV

“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.” Genesis 1:31 ESV

Six Essentials to Team Parenting

1. Make _____ for Each Other

2. _____ from Others

3. Deal with Issues _____

4. Agree on How You Will _____

5. Make _____ a Priority

6. Implement a _____

The Clay (Adolph Kalk 1967)

Each little child God sends our way
Is like a piece of soft new clay
Tis ours to mold and shape and trim
To make it pleasing unto him.

Each little thing we do or say,
Makes an Impression, day by day
On every growing mind and heart.
Forming a pattern from the start.

Oh, what a solemn trust is ours.
How we must guard those precious hours!
Too soon this clay will be a stone...
Our chance is gone.... Our child is grown!