

GOSPEL-CENTERED PARENTING

Colossians 3.20,21

THE GOAL OF PARENTING

Colossians 3.20, 21 // Ephesians 6.1-4

Far too often, as parents we make good behavior, morality, and good decision making the goal of our parenting. And though these are good things to see in our kids, these should be by-products of the main goal, which is to see our kids in a right relationship with God. Any compromise of this leads to idolatry and moralism, a life of self-righteousness and legalism.

You are the primary means of grace in your children's lives.

HOW DOES GOD PARENT US?

It's no mistake that God refers to Himself as a Father. Our primary source for learning how to parent can be found by the example of our Father.

Discipline vs. Punishment

Discipline = _____ Punishment = _____

Notice that the word "discipline" shares the same root word as "disciple." The purpose of discipline is to disciple someone, *not* punish them!

**If we punish to make someone pay,
then Christ was punished and paid for us for no reason.**

Romans 8.1, 2 // 2 Corinthians 5.21 // Galatians 5.1 // 1 John 4.18
Galatians 6.1 // Hebrews 12.5-15

GOD'S GRACE TRAINS US

Titus 2.11-14



NOTES:

Other Suggested Resources:

Gospel-Powered Parenting by William Farley
A must-read book on how to make the Gospel central to raising your children.

Daily Devotionals:

Monday: Colossians 3.20, 21
Tuesday: Ephesians 6.1-4
Wednesday: Romans 8.1, 2 // 2 Corinthians 5.21
Thursday: Galatians 5.1 // 1 John 4.18
Friday: Galatians 6.1 // Hebrews 12.5-15
Saturday: Titus 2.11-14

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEWCOMERS MEET & GREET - TODAY!

If you're new or don't feel connected in the church yet, check out our **Newcomers Meet & Greet** right after service! We'll have a brief get-together where you'll meet Pastor Jobey & other ministry leaders, find out more about who we are as a church, ask questions, and enjoy some snacks! **Childcare will be provided.** Even if you've been coming to Life Mission for a few months, **we really want to meet you!**

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY - STARTS TODAY!

Have your junior highers (7th & 8th graders) join their fellow students **today** for the **launch of our Junior High Ministry!** Come meet their teachers and **get them checked-in** at the last classroom by the blacktop. They will join the adults for worship as a group, then head back to their class for the rest of service.

GPS MEETING MARCH 3RD

Join us on **Monday the 3rd at 7PM** here at the church for our quarterly GPS (Gospel Positioning Strategy) Meeting. We'll have a time of worship, prayer, and looking ahead to see where God is moving us forward as a church. Childcare will be provided. **Please let us know on your Connection Card** if you plan to join us and what your childcare needs are, so we can plan accordingly.

MEN'S MINISTRY - MARCH 10TH

We're launching our **Men's Ministry** led by Pastor Jobey on Monday, March 10th! We will meet **every other Monday at 7PM.** The location is To Be Decided based on the size of the group. So **PLEASE help us plan by signing up** at the Connection Booth TODAY!

BAPTISM, PARENT DEDICATIONS, & PICNIC!

On **March 9th** we are having a **Baptism** as well as **parent's publicly dedicating themselves** to raise their children in the Gospel! Afterward, we'll celebrate with a **Picnic on the grassy field!** If you haven't been baptized, would like to participate in the dedications, or would like more info on either, **write it on your Connection Card!**

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

CONTACT US:

Jobey McGinty // Lead Pastor
jobey@lifemission.tv

Eric Price // Community and Connection
eric@lifemission.tv

Pete Christopher // Technical Arts
pete@lifemission.tv

Matt Piro // Worship Leader
matt@lifemission.tv

Audra Napolitano // Kids on Mission
audra@lifemission.tv

Kim Roberson // Administration
kim@lifemission.tv

Laurie Garcia // Administration
laurie@lifemission.tv

Life Mission Church

PO Box 908, San Marcos, CA 92079

www.LifeMissionChurch.com

Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch

Twitter: @YourLifeMission

YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Colossians 3.20, 21** as well as **Ephesians 6.1-4**. What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday or from these verses? _____

In your own words, what is the big goal of parenting? _____

When you think back to how you were raised, or even thinking about you might be raising your own kids, what do most parents "settle for" when it comes to the goal of raising kids? _____

What is the problem with settling for morality, good decision making, or other kinds of "successes" as the main hope and goal of raising kids? _____

At **Life Mission Church**, our "big goal" is to Save, Equip, and Send. Our "big goal" for our **Kids on Mission** is the same, to Save, Equip, and Send. How does seeing this help you connect your parenting with your own discipleship?

Read **Hebrews 12.5-15**. How would you describe the difference between punishment and discipline, and how does this passage give us a good picture of the parallels between how God disciplines us and how we should be disciplining our children? _____

It's been said that "discipleship without desire is drudgery." When God's grace and the Gospel isn't the center of your child raising and discipline, how can your raising of your kids (discipleship) become drudgery, for you and for them? _____

What "motivators" do we often use to help our kids, or even our friends or our own selves, to stop sin? _____

Read **Titus 2.11-14**. How would you describe how God's grace actually "trains us" to say "no" to sin? _____

In our faith, we are to be motivated from acceptance, not toward acceptance. Any time we are "working for" God's acceptance, it is a begrudging and hopeless task. Only when we are in love with Jesus and overflowing with a love for the Gospel will we see heart change and real, spiritual fruit.

Look at the bicycle picture. When one of these elements is missing, our sanctification doesn't work properly; real spiritual fruit and heart change doesn't happen. What kind of life or "Christianity" do you picture when one of those elements is missing?

No Justification Driving and Steering: _____

Faith without Repentance: _____

Repentance without Faith: _____