



Sentence

When you know the truth about relationships, you won't be easily fooled by the knock-offs.



Story

Share a story about something in your childhood you wholeheartedly believed was real and how you found out or figured out it wasn't.

"Santa or the Easter Bunny..."

"A lie your parents told you to make you behave..."

"Your favorite place in a movie not actually existing..."



Set-Up

1 Samuel 2

Things are not always as they seem. The sons of Eli were priests and therefore perceived as men who should be righteous, but that was not the case. They were putting themselves above God and taking what was meant for Him.

Read 1 Samuel 2:12-15

What about your parenting (or the way you were parented) takes away from God? (i.e. what actions, words, or choices do you make that model more of your nature than God's nature?)



Search

Read Proverbs 19:13-26



Verse 13

What foolish things get in the way of biblical parenting for you? (i.e. sports, grades, wanting to be liked, etc.)



Verse 14-18

What did you inherit from your parents?

What do you hope your children will inherit from you?



Verse 18-19

In what ways were you or your siblings enabled as children by your parents?

In what ways do you enable your children?



Verse 20-22

Be honest, where are you getting your parenting advice from? (i.e. the world or the Word)



Verse 23-26

In what ways did your parents, or in what ways do you, prioritize salvation in everyday life?



Solution

Even when we think they are not paying attention, kids are always soaking in their surroundings.

1. How can you magnify a life that loves the Lord?

Read **Ephesians 6:1-3**. What promises are you making to your children through your parenting*?

** If you don't have children, what promises did your parents make to you with the way they chose to parent? (i.e. promise to teach about Jesus, promise of safety, security or love)*

2. In what ways can you model a life that loves the Lord?

Discipline to teach, not to maintain control

Other _____

Involve your children in serving those around you

Through your words and actions model the importance of a quiet time of prayer with God (i.e. invite your children to watch or be a small part)

Make room for grace the next time your child makes a mistake and consider offering grace and helping them understand what grace is all about.



Send Out

Break into groups of 2-3 (same gender if a coed group), discuss ways you can bring God into your daily parenting. Make a plan to connect with each other in-person, call, or text this week.

Pray together.