



## KEYS FOR BUILDING **STRONG FAMILIES AND RELATIONSHIPS**

### LESSON 10 // HELP, I'M A PARENT!—PART 3

**Big Idea:** The Bible is full of wisdom, principles and instructions for parents to raise their children in a way that honors God. At the heart of this is the importance of healthy, godly relationships between parents and kids. These relationships include times of teaching (Proverbs 1:8, 9), appropriate boundaries and loving discipline (Hebrews 12:5-11; Ephesians 6:1-4; Colossians 3:20, 21).

**Proverbs 22:6 (TPT)** *Dedicate your children to God and point them in the way that they should go, and the values they've learned from you will be with them for life.*

**Discussion Questions:** This week we learned about taking time to teach our children, establishing boundaries, and providing discipline. All of these require time and effort on our part that can be exhausting on the forefront but rewarding in the long run. Let's discuss some action steps to help set us up for lasting success.

- Review the list of primary responsibilities of parents. Which of these did you receive from your parents?
- In this season of life, which ones would you like to grow in and teach to your children?
- **Ephesians 6:4 says “don’t keep on scolding and nagging your children, making them angry and resentful. Rather, bring them up with the loving discipline the Lord himself approves, with suggestions and godly advice.”** Describe a time when you were scolded growing up. How did you feel? Did your behavior or attitude change?
- Think about your child(ren) and the areas they need correction or discipline in. What are some ways you can give suggestions and godly advice without nagging or scolding?
- **Read Hebrews 12:5-11 together.** What comes to mind when you read these verses?
- Which of the points under establishing boundaries and providing discipline can you practice this week?

#### **Prayer Focus:**

**If there are not parents in the group:** Take a moment to pray for parents that you may know with children. Pray that God would give them what they need in order to best lead their children in a way that is honorable to God and best for their child(ren).

**If there are parents in the group:** Ask parents to share (what they are comfortable sharing) specific needs that the group could pray for specifically as it pertains to raising their children. If there are many parents you can break up into smaller groups.

#### **Leader Tip:**

Be encouraging to parents within the group, often times (for parents) it can be easy to feel as if you are failing because you do not see rapid improvements in a child. Also, as we talk about parenting, be aware that some may share their negative experiences with their parents. This may be an opportunity to care for and minister to members of your group.