

LESSON 8 // GROW UP

Big Idea: Resilience requires maturity and this is all about growing up. Resilient people are responsible. They have chosen to take responsibility for all aspects of their lives. We need to continue learning this as adults and to teach and instill it in our children.

Living responsibly brings freedom because there's a God-designed relationship between responsibility and freedom. The opposite of responsible living is immaturity and we should beware of the obvious signs of immaturity in ourselves and our kids. We need to pursue maturity by owning the life God has given us—being good stewards of this gift. This kind of “growing up” leads to a productive, fulfilling and rewarding life.

Matthew 24:45-46 (NLT) *A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward.*

Start Talking:

What are your top three most important responsibilities? What happens if you are not diligent in keeping up with these?

Start Thinking:

Read Deuteronomy 30:19 and 1 Peter 2:16. How are freedom and responsibility related to each other? What role does your free will—the ability to choose freely—play in this?

Read 2 Samuel 15:1-6. What are some of the ways that immaturity can detour or even destroy your life? What can you do to avoid this in you and your children?

Read Matthew 24:45-46 and 1 Peter 4:10. What do you learn from these verses about being a good “steward” of the life and gifts God has given you?

What benefits have you experienced from consistently fulfilling your responsibilities? How can you help your children (or children you have some influence on) understand the value of this in their lives?

Start Praying and Doing:

Write out your most important responsibilities in the following areas of your life: spiritually, relationally, financially and at work. Then describe briefly the impact you can have on others (adults and kids) in your world if you set an example of maturity and responsibility in these areas.

Pray that God will use you to have this kind influence for His kingdom in the days and years ahead as you seek to be a good steward of His gifts!