



Small Group Discussion Guide

ICE BREAKER: When you see a child throw a temper tantrum, what is the first thought that goes through your head? What is the second thought? Have your thoughts changed over the years you've observed these public outbursts?

INSTRUCTIONS: If your group meets bi-weekly, do 2 & 4.

1. When was the last time you felt like you had success in parenting or success in a relationship? When was the last time you felt like you had no idea what you were doing? What is your response to success? To failure/no idea what you're doing? In what ways do you determine success or failure? Why is that?
2. Read Ephesians 6:1-4a. Pastor Nate explained that there are multiple ways that we can provoke children to anger. Have you witnessed these problems before? What was the result? Do you struggle with one or more of these tendencies? How might you take steps to avoid that "method to madness?" Pastor Nate explained that we need to remember that each person has a unique story but we can forget to treat children as individuals. How have you seen parents effectively lead children that are very different from one another?
3. How is discipline different than simply following rules? Read Young's definition of parenting in your message notes. What might this look like in the different stages of parenting (i.e., toddlers, grade schoolers, teens, adults)? How does discipline guard and guide us toward the goal?
4. Parenting children is a very challenging responsibility that we cannot face on our own. Read Ephesians 1:16-18. What are the two things given us by God in this passage? How can these two gifts help us to lead families in a healthy way, teaching and training them to leave well?

Personal Guide for Week of May 5th

Pastor Nate provided some great passages in his message. Take time to review them this week as you consider God's plan for discipline in the family structure.

DAY 1: Read *Ephesians 6:1-4a* - How do we provoke others? Why is it harmful?

DAY 2: Read *Ephesians 6:4* and *Proverbs 12:1* - Why is discipline better than punishment?

DAY 3: Read *Hebrews 12:4-13*; *Proverbs 3:11-12* and *Revelation 3:19* - How is discipline displaying love in action?

DAY 4: Read *1 Corinthians 9:24-27* and *Timothy 1:7* - How have you seen discipline guard and guide in your life?

DAY 5: Read *Ephesians 1:16-18* - How does this passage encourage you as you relate to others?

IS THIS US?

MESSAGE NOTES AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION & PERSONAL GUIDES

“WHAT PART OF ‘NO’...”

MAY 6, 2018

IS THIS US?

A SERIES ON PARENTING AND FAMILIES

“What Part of ‘No’...”

[Nate Sickler, Small Groups Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Is this _____?

Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. “Honor your father and mother.” This is the first commandment with a promise: If you honor your father and mother, “things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth.”

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. (Ephesians 6:1-4a NLT)

The Method to _____

We get _____ in the details.

Biblical definition of _____ = the biblical process of teaching and training your children to _____ (Young).

Rules can rule _____.

Ways we _____ to anger:

1. Overprotection—Does not allow for _____
2. _____ negativity—Does not allow for _____
3. _____ boundaries
4. Ignoring _____
 - a. _____ - willed children
 - b. _____ children

The _____ and the Bathwater

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4 NLT)

Discipline is not _____ (Proverbs 12:1)

Discipline is _____ in action. (Hebrews 12:4-13; Proverbs 3:11-12; Revelation 3:19)

Discipline _____ and _____ (I Corinthians 9:24-27; II Timothy 1:7)

How Can We Do This?

I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. (Ephesians 1:16-17 NLT)

I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. (Ephesians 1:18 NLT)

Is This Us?

Are we humble seeking godly _____ in the guidance we give toward adulthood?

Are we _____ filling our homes with _____?



“What Part of ‘No’...”
[Nate Sickler, Small Groups Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Is this us?

Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. “Honor your father and mother.” This is the first commandment with a promise: If you honor your father and mother, “things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth.”

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. (Ephesians 6:1-4a NLT)

The Method to Madness

We get stuck in the details

Rules can rule out relationship

Ways we provoke to anger

- 1) Overprotection=Does not allow for failure
- 2) Constant negativity=Does not allow for success
- 3) Inconsistent boundaries
- 4) Ignoring individuality
 - a. Strong-willed children
 - b. Compliant children

The Baby and the Bathwater

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4 NLT)

Discipline is not punishment (Proverbs 12:1)

Discipline is love in action. (Hebrews 12:4-13; Proverbs 3:11-12; Revelation 3:19)

Discipline guards and guides (1 Corinthians 9:24-27; 2 Timothy 1:7)

How Can We Do This?

Biblical definition of parenting = the biblical process of teaching and training your children to leave (Young).

I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. (Ephesians 1:16-17 NLT)

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Is This Us?

Are we humbly seeking godly wisdom in the guidance we give toward adulthood?

Are we confidently filling our homes with hope?