



LIFE GROUP LESSON

“Raising World Changing Children”

MAY 2024

INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Lesson Objective: To focus on the importance of Christian upbringing and how it has affected our lives; and how it can help to raise and guide our own families.

Life Group Leader Lesson Preparation Discuss how your Christian upbringing has helped you in life and even helped or is helping you raise and guide your own family. Although many of us were not raised in a Christian environment, in fact quite the contrary, our focus will be on scriptures that will confirm *Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)*; “Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older they will not leave it.”

Raising World Changing Children Starts at Home.

1 Timothy 1:5 – Paul commended Timothy’s grandmother and mother for passing on their faith to their son.

2 Timothy 3:15 – And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Esther 2:20 – But Esther had kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai’s instructions as she had done when he was bringing her up.

- *Esther 9:16,22 NIV*

My son, keep your father’s command and do not forsake your mother’s teaching.

- *Proverbs 6:20 (NIV)*

Responsibility Begins at Home

WEEK #1 – How Do We Raise World Changers?

Discussion Question: As parents what are some responsibilities in raising World Changers?

1. Teach them God has a plan and purpose for their life.
 - a. *For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. – Jeremiah 29:11*

2. Be an example of what God has in store for them.
 - a. *But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. James 1:22*
3. Be intentional and deliberate in raising them to be successful.
 - a. *A good man leaves an inheritance [of moral stability and goodness] to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner [finds its way eventually] into the hands of the righteous, for whom it was laid up. Proverbs 13:22 (AMP)*

What are some examples of how you were purposefully raised and/or are raising your children? If you weren't raised in a Godly environment, how did it affect your life?

WEEK #2 – Instill in them a sense of divine destiny.

Discussion Question: Discuss ways we are allowing God to use us to build up our children for their destiny?

1. They should identify with their spiritual/royal heritage

- a. *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. – 1 Peter 2:9 (AMP)*
- b. Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

2. A relationship with Jesus Christ as their own personal Lord and Savior

- a. *But as many as received him, to them gave the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: John 1:12*

3. God will equip you with favor and purpose for His destiny for your life

- a. Daniel 1:3-4: Only **certain** of the children of Israel were selected:
 - *And the [Babylonian] king told Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring in some of the children of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility—; Youths without blemish, well-favored in appearance and skillful in all wisdom, discernment, and understanding, apt in learning knowledge, competent to stand and serve in the king's palace—and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.*
- b. Children will begin to have a mindset for success and faith.

Jesus said according to your faith be it unto you. God will meet you where you are.

1. *Then touched he their eyes, saying, **according to your faith be it unto you.** Matthew 9:29*
 - c. It takes faith and courage to walk in your destiny.

- *Luke 1:38 – Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.*

WEEK #3 – God Did Not Give Us the Spirit of Fear

Discussion Question: Are you instilling fear or insecurity by being over-protective or controlling?

1. Teach them the ways of God, and how to go to God for themselves.
 - a. *2 Timothy 1:7 – For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*
2. Allow them to experience “being more than a conqueror” when they encounter difficult and painful circumstances of life. Let the Holy Spirit speak to them through knowing God’s word and that obedience pays off and that He is always with them.
3. Allow them to suffer the consequences of wrong choices and be there to love them through discipline.
4. Set Godly boundaries, celebrate who they are as individuals.

God helps us by encouraging us to use our intelligence:

- Urging us to take advantage of learning opportunities.
- Inspiring us to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge we need to work effectively in whatever area we have chosen as a career. Reference “*Think Big*” by Ben Carson.

As a parent or child are you a product of your training or environment that has hindered you from attaining a goal?

- *Romans 8:38 – Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. DON’T ACCEPT DEFEAT!*
- *II Corinthians 2:14 – Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.*
- *Psalms 102:13 – Thou shalt arise and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.*

Spiritual Warfare – Walking in your authority, as a believer

Luke 11:21-22 AMP – For when Satan, strong and fully armed, guards his palace, it is safe—until someone stronger and better armed attacks and overcomes him and strips him of his weapons and carries off his belongings.

Matthew 16:19 KJV – And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

WEEK 4 – Bring into Captivity Every Thought to the Obedience of Christ – Refusing to Dishonor God

Discussion Question: Discuss times when it has been difficult to take a stand for God, when concerned about what others will think.

Remind our children and ourselves that WE don't fit into the world's system.

- *John 17:16* – They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
- *Romans 12:2* – And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
- *I John 2:15* Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

We can be successful, world-changing believers without conforming to the world's system.

Godly conduct during testing times:

- Moses – *Hebrews 11:24-25* – Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.
- Joseph – “The Dreamer” – his future position would preserve his people during the time of famine and give them favor with the Pharaoh.

Genesis 41:37-40 – And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants. And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

- Daniel and his three friends were placed in an embarrassing position when the luxuries of the Kings palace were placed before them, and it was against their godly principles to drink the king's wine or eat their food.

World Changers – *Daniel 3:10-30*

- They also refused to worship other gods.
- The King made a decree in favor of God.
- Delivered from Lion's den – *Daniel 6:10-28*