Series: Getting Better

Message: Getting Better in Family October 30, 2011

WE HAVE BOTH A BIOLOGICAL AND A SPIRITUAL FAMILY.

GETTING BETTER IN FAMILIES REQUIRES IMPARTING SPIRITUAL LIFE.

- ENLIST SUPPORTING VOICES.
- RAISE THE EXPECTATIONS. Deuteronomy 6:5
- KEEP IT REAL. Deuteronomy 6:7-9

YOU CAN HAVE OR BE A SPIRITUAL PARENT. 1 Cor 4:15-17

- BE AN EXAMPLE IN THE WAY YOU LIVE. Titus 2:7
- LOVE YOUR GOD. Deuteronomy 6:4-5
- LEAD YOUR FAMILY. Deuteronomy 6:6-9
- TELL STORIES. Psalms 145:4, 6

YOU CAN HAVE OR BE A SPIRITUAL CHILD.

- ASK QUESTIONS, LISTEN, TAKE NOTES. Acts 16:29-30
- PUT INTO PRACTICE WHAT YOU SEE. Phil 4:9
- SHOW HONOR. Romans 12:10

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What was one of the most important things you learned from your parents while growing up?

Who is someone that you look up to and try to be more like? In what ways do you strive to be more like them?

One of the greatest gifts one human being can give to another is believing in them. Who are some of the people that have believed in you? How has their belief impacted you?

Digging Deeper

Read 1 Corinthians 4:15-17 and Titus 2:3-5. These passages emphasize the importance of having a spiritual family in our lives.

How have spiritual mothers or fathers impacted your life and shaped who you are today?

Why is it so important that we have a spiritual family?

Read Acts 16:29-30, Philippians 4:9, and Romans 12:10. These verses offer us a blueprint of what it looks like to be a Timothy (spiritual son or daughter).

In what areas of your life do you feel the need to be a Timothy and have a Paul mentor you?

Describe a time when you put into practice something you learned from a mentor. What did you learn from your experience?

What are some ways you show honor to those who mentor and influence you?

Read Titus 2:7-8, Psalm 145:4-6 and 1 Thessalonians 2:8. These verses show us what it looks like to be a Paul (a spiritual mother or father) to another person.

In what ways do you feel unqualified to be a Paul?

How can you go about growing in those areas?

What unique experiences have you had in your life that you feel would be beneficial in sharing with others?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 1 Corinthians 13:11-12.

These verses show us the best ways to impart spiritual life on the next generation.

Who are some of the people that regularly speak biblical truth to you and your family?

How have they impacted you and your family's spiritual life?

Why is it important that adults enlist the help of others when training children to live a Christ-centered life?

In what ways can you raise the expectations of your own spiritual life and in the lives of those that you influence?

How can you strive to be more authentic in your relationship with Christ?

What are some things you can do to become a stronger spiritual example to the people you currently influence?

Take it Home

In your home, take steps to be intentional in getting better. Here are some areas to train (put into practice) that lead to developing Christ—centered, biblically anchored, world changers.

TRAINING FROM PROVERBS:

- 1) Train them to manage God's money. (Prov. 3:9-10)
- 2) Train them to carefully select friends. (Prov. 13:20)
- 3) Train them to watch their words. (Prov. 4:24)
- 4) Train them to be responsible. (Prov. 6:6-8)
- 5) Train them to guard their minds. (Prov. 23:7)
- 6) Train them to be generous. (Prov. 11: 25)
- 7) Train them to fear God. (Prov. 1:7)