



Focus on Family Leaving A Legacy That Matters

*"And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people:
all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the LORD hath
blessed."*

Isaiah 61:9

Study Guide

**Based on the book: Leaving A Godly Legacy (Give the Inheritance That Really Matters)
by: Charles E. Stanley**

This study guide is provided as a means of reviewing and reinforcing what is taught each week. Participants are encouraged to complete the weekly studies prior to each lesson and to record additional thoughts or comments as desired. **Discussion questions, review words, and Scripture passages** are provided as a beginning bases for each study. Please feel free to add additional words, passages, or questions that are personal to you and/or may reflect your particular situation. Completing this study guide does not require that participants read the book, however, reading the book does give additional insight into practical applications of the subject matter. Although much of the references in this study are directed towards *parents and their children*, a legacy (our influence) can be left to anyone observing and imitating the life of the individual.

Reading, studying, and meditating on God's Word is always first and foremost in any Bible study. Participants are encouraged to pray prior to beginning and at the conclusion of every lesson so that you might be receptive to the Holy Spirit and what He is speaking to you through this study.

WEEKLY STUDY POINTS

WEEK 1: PLACING PRIORITY ON WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT

Lesson 1: The Inheritance That Really Matters

Lesson 3: A Strong Sense of Value

Lesson 8: A High Value Upon God's Word

WEEK 2: FORMING GODLY RELATIONSHIPS

Lesson 2: A Strong Sense of Belonging

Lesson 6: Relating To Others In A Godly Way

Lesson 7: A Growing Relationship With The Lord

WEEK 3: CAPABLE OF OVERCOMING

Lesson 4: An Awareness of Capability

Lesson 9: Overcoming Problems and Unpleasant Situations

WEEK 4: WALKING INTO BLESSINGS

Lesson 5: An Ability to Walk In The Spirit

Lesson 10: In Position to Receive God's Rewards

Legacy is defined as something that is passed on: faith, ethics, and core values, monetary, or assets may come from one's character, reputation, and the life one leads-setting an example for others and to guide their future.

Our lives are only a vapor that appears and is gone in an instant; like a puff of smoke (**James 4:14**). Our legacy is what people will remember us for; something that will live on in the hearts and minds of others long after we leave this earth.

When most people think about leaving a legacy they automatically think in terms of money, property, businesses, or material possessions (fancy cars, elaborate homes, empires). Many people want to leave behind a legacy that will outlive them for generations to come. Parents will sometimes name their first-born male children after the father in order to carry on the *family name*. Large corporations spend billions of dollars each year to "perfect" their "brand" (the image they want to project to the world). Those things are only temporary and could sometimes lead to unexpected or unpleasant outcomes. A legacy can bring honor or shame upon a person or family.

A legacy may be passed down to children, other relatives (grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, etc.) or to someone not related (God-children, Spiritual-children, mentees). Some legacies may impact people we don't even know; as a result of the impact made on someone we do know that may be passed on to someone else, reacting like a domino effect.

All believers have some level of influence; someone whom God has called them to reach (our impact or imprint on the world) either through what we do or what we say. Children follow in their parents' footsteps. Not every parent is involved in their child's spiritual growth or is capable or willing to leave a positive legacy for their child. A pastor, teacher, or other adult may be influential in a child's life.

As believers, our legacy should be more than just material possessions and wealth.

The most important legacy believers can leave are not those things that can be manufactured or bought, but those things that are taught daily through the lives of the believers.

Christ is the first-born of many brethren (**Romans 8:29**); a perfect model of what God intended for us to be. As followers, we are to imitate the example Christ has set for us. We are called to be imitators of Christ (**Ephesians 5:1**), to conform to Christ's image. To do this requires total dependence on God's Word and The Holy Spirit; surrendering "our will" to that of the Father. How we choose to live our lives will determine how much or how little of Christ's image we are able to imitate and ultimately project to the world. There are many self-help books on how to leave a legacy, but the Bible is a believer's most important resource. It is important that we pray and seek God to help us to leave the legacy that He desires us to leave.

Focus on Family
Leaving A Legacy That Matters

Week 1

Placing Priority
On
What's Important

Lesson 1: The Inheritance That Really Matters

Lesson 3: A Strong Sense of Value

Lesson 8: A High Value Upon God's Word

Focus on Family

Leaving A Legacy That Matters

WEEK 1: PLACING PRIORITY ON WHAT'S IMPORTANT

A Spiritual legacy is more important than material possessions that can be squandered or misused

LESSON 1: The Inheritance That Really Matters

The bible presents a much more important legacy that Christians are to leave

- (1) What exactly is a Godly legacy?**
- (2) When you hear the word “legacy, what comes to mind?**
- (3) How can I influence the next generation for Christ?**
- (4) What type of emotional legacy do you desire to leave the next generation?**
- (5) What type of spiritual legacy do you desire to leave the next generation?**

Live A Life Worthy of Our Calling

- (6) What is “the upward call of God” Paul refers to in Philippians 3:14?**
- (7) What goals are you presently striving toward?**
- (8) How will your striving influence others?**

Imitators of Christ

To be an imitator of Christ is to mimic, mirror, copy Him.

- (9) Where have you seen children (or someone) imitating your behavior?
How did you feel?**
- (10) What aspect of Christ’s life have you consciously tried to imitate?**

How Children Learn

Children learn first by copying the behavior of their parents; by imitating others. As the parent imitates Christ, the child is going to imitate the parent.

(11) In what areas do you struggle the most?

Never Forgotten

What you “do” will always be more powerful than what you “say”

Spiritual Children, Too

Each of us is called to leave a godly legacy to all who see our lives.

-children we may not even know

-those whom we lead to Christ and help mentor and raise up to maturity in Christ

-children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, god-children, children you teach

Ask God to help you identify children in your life to whom you can leave a godly legacy

(12) Identify some of your fears and also some of your hopes and joys

(13) What aspects of your life would you most like your children (or others) to imitate? What aspects would you least like them to imitate?

FOCUS WORDS

BELIEFS

FOCUS

LEGACY

FIRSTBORN

NAMESAKE

PRIORITY

BRANDING

INFLUENCE

INFLUENCER

WORTHY/WEIGHTY

IMITATE: to mimic or copy someone or something

SPIRITUAL CHILDREN

PURPOSE

IMPACT

LESSON 3: A Strong Sense of Value

Everybody needs to feel loved-that he has value in another person's eyes

A message of unconditional love also tells a child that he is "lovable"-not only to other people, but to God.

- (1) What is unconditional love?**
- (2) How can I learn to love others-especially my children- without strings?**
- (3) When have you experienced unconditional love? What was the effect?**
- (4) When you think about God do you feel openness and love toward Him or do you feel fear or reluctance to approach Him?**
- (5) According to I John 4:16, how does a person "abide in God"? How does a child do the same with parents?**
- (6) How do you think your children feel when approaching you?**

Freedom to Love

The person who has not experienced unconditional love

- has a great deal of difficulty loving others
- is more likely to be manipulative and controlling when it comes to matters of the heart
- cannot love as God loves

- (7) Do you struggle to love people unconditionally? Do you sometimes put conditions on relationships?**
- (8) According to John 15:12, how has God loved you? How does that compare with the way that you love your children?**

Three Results of Unconditional Love

1. Sacrificial giving

- (9) When have you been the recipient of sacrificial giving? How did you feel? What was your response to that kind of love?**
- (10) Based on John 15:13, give some practical examples of what it means to "lay**

down one's life". Which of these things have you done for your children?

2. Trust in God

(11) Read I John 4:18; what sorts of fears have you experienced in love? What fears do you have toward God?

(12) What might your children fear in their relationship to you? How can you "cast out fear" from their hearts?

3. Keeping God's commandments

(13) Have you had experience with rebellion in your past? What were the consequences?

(14) Based on Deuteronomy 12:28, why does God promise obedience to His Word makes things "go well" with your children, as well as with you? What areas of God's Word do you need to follow more closely?

(15) Read Luke 11:11-13; how often do you ask God to help you love your children (others) unconditionally?

(16) What help does Jesus promise to those who ask?

FOCUS WORDS

TRUST

VALUE

SELF-WORTH

SECURITY

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

SACRIFICIAL LOVE

FEAR

COMMANDMENTS

BOUNDARIES

REBELLION

OBEDIENCE

LESSON 8: A High Value Upon God's Word

The Scriptures command us to teach God's Word to our children

- (1) What value does the Bible have in the lives of your children?**
- (2) How can you persuade your children to read the Bible?**
- (3) How do you learn right from wrong? On what did you base your understanding?**

How A Child Learns God's Word

- I. **Your child learns and begins to appreciate God's Word through your reading it aloud**
- II. **Your child learns God's Word by memorizing scripture**

- (4) According to Deuteronomy 10:12-13, what does it mean to serve God "with all your heart and with all your soul"? What is the difference between heart and soul?**
- (5) According to Proverbs 7:1-4, what does it mean to "bind the commands of God on your fingers"? To "write them on the tablet of your heart"?**
- (6) Consider the following verbs in Proverbs 2:1-5; give practical definitions for each:**

-receive	-cry out
-treasure	-lift your voice
-incline your ear	-seek
-apply your heart	-search

- (7) Why do these verses suggest that finding wisdom is hard work? How can these verses help your child become wise?**

- III. **A child learns God's Word by reading and studying it**

- (8) Read II Timothy 3:16-17; define each of the following words, giving practical examples of each:**
- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| -doctrine | -correction |
| -reproof | -instruction |

(9) In what ways, practically speaking, is a person “incomplete” and “unequipped” for life without the Bible? How does this apply to you? To your children?

Believe What You Read!

We are to do God’s Word (to live what we believe)

(10) What does Psalms 119:160 suggest about our approach to reading the Bible? How can you include “the entirety” of God’s Word in reading to your children?

(11) Keep a record of the Scripture passages that you read in the coming week. Use this as a starting point to read through the entire Bible together over the next year.

(12) According to James 1:22 in what ways do we deceive ourselves if we are “hearers only” of God’s Word? How can you help your child understand this?

(13) In what areas of your own life do you tend to be a “hearer” rather than a “doer”? How might your children (others) be imitating this pattern?

(14) Why does loving God’s Word keep a person from stumbling?

(15) How will you increase your children’s love of God’s Word?

FOCUS WORDS

PERSPECTIVE

MOTIVATION

REFLECTION

SPIRITUAL DOCUMENT

APPRECIATE

TREASURE

APPLE OF YOUR EYE

WISDOM

UNDERSTANDING

FOUNDATIONAL

IMAGINARY

MYTHICAL

**WISDOM
LIFE-GIVING
ACCESS
WISE COUNSEL**

Focus on Family
Leaving A Legacy That Matters

Week 2

Forming

Godly

Relationships

Lesson 2: A Strong Sense of Belonging

Lesson 6: Relating To Others In A Godly Way

Lesson 7: A Growing Relationship With The Lord

Pastor's Emphasis: Realignment

Focus on Family

Leaving A Legacy That Matters

WEEK 2: FORMING GODLY RELATIONSHIPS

How we relate to others is a reflection of our relationship with God

LESSON 2: A Strong Sense of Belonging

Emotional well-being begins with a sense of belonging (the knowledge that a person is wanted)

One of the greatest gifts that you can give your child is a strong sense of belonging: to your family
to the greater family of Christ

- (1) What is the most important legacy that you can give your children?**
- (2) When have you felt rejected? How did you compensate for those feelings?**
- (3) Read Romans 1:11-12 and Philippians 4:1, how does it feel to hear someone say, “I can hardly wait to be with you”?**
- (4) Why does Paul long to see his fellow Christians?**

Creating A Sense of Belonging In Your Child

There are two main ways to build a sense of belonging in your child

I. Give Your Child Time

- (5) In Matthew 19:13-14, what approach does Jesus take concerning including children in religious gatherings?**
- (6) Based on Deuteronomy 6:6-7, when are parents to teach their children?**
- (7) According to Luke 9:47-48, what does it mean to “receive a child in Jesus’ name”? How is this done in practical terms?**
- (8) What do these verses imply about a person who does not receive a little child in Jesus’ name?**

II. Value Your Child's Ideas and Opinions

(9) How did Jesus respond in Luke 11:1-2 when He was interrupted by His disciples? What did His response demonstrate to the disciples?

(10) How do you respond when your children interrupt important tasks? What does your response teach your children?

The Great Value That God Places on "Belonging"

(11) What does it mean in John 17:22-23 that Jesus was "one" with the Father? What does this mean regarding the disciples' relationships with one another?

(12) How can your family gain that sort of "oneness"? According to these verses, what is the result of strong family unity?

(13) How does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 18:19-20 apply to "oneness"?

When we teach our children that they belong to us and to our families, we teach them what it means to belong to God

(14) What things are John declaring to his readers in I John 1:3? What things do you "declare" to your children?

(15) How well do your words line up with your actions in front of children? In what areas do you need to be more consistent with the teachings of Christ?

FOCUS WORDS

FORM

SENSE OF BELONGING: the knowledge that you are wanted

EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

REJECTED

ALIENATED

VALUE

APPROVAL

RELATIONSHIP (positive/negative)

VALIDITY

EXCLUSION

FELLOWSHIP

LESSON 6: Relating to Others In A Godly Way

Paul identifies characteristics of the godly life necessary for godly relationships

We are only to walk in “close fellowship” with other believers. The Scriptures admonish us not to be “yoked” with non-believers (closely aligned with them or “one” with them).

- (1) What should I do if my children can't get along with others?**
- (2) What are the secrets to good relationships?**
- (3) How does Daniel 1:8 and Daniel 3:16-18 relate to being unequally yoked? What were they willing to do? How does this compare with your own attitude toward God's Word?**
- (4) Have you attempted to live in a “yoked” relationship with an ungodly person? What were the results?**
- (5) What are some examples of being “unequally yoked” with unbelievers?**
- (6) According to Philippians 4:8-9 and II Corinthians 6:14, 17, what does it mean to “come out from among them and be separate”?**
- (7) Give practical examples of what it means to “touch what is unclean”. Do your children see you touching unclean things?**

Characteristics of a godly life (traits necessary for godly relationships)

-Wholesome Communication

- (8) Read Ephesians 4:29-31 and Ephesians 5:4. What does it mean to have “corrupt communication”?**
- (9) When have you felt yourself “corrupted” by what someone said to you? When have you made a comment that caused harm to someone else?**
- (10) What does Philippians 4:8 encourage believers to do?**
- (11) List examples of each of the following qualities:**

-true	-lovely	-pure
-just	-good report	
- (12) What does Matthew 12:34-35, 37 say about our words?**

(13) Read James 3:10-11. When have you caught yourself praising God with one breath, then cursing someone (literally or figuratively) with the next?

(14) When have you heard your children repeating things that you said? Were those things good or not so good?

-Gentleness, Kindness, and Patience

(15) List the Fruit of the Spirit recorded in Galatians 5:22-23. How do we obtain these attributes?

(16) According to Proverbs 16:32, what does it mean to “rule your spirit”? How is this done in practical terms?

(17) What is required for a man to conquer a fortified city? How do these qualities compare with the effort involved in controlling your own anger?

-Submission to One Another

Submission is rooted in two key words: humility and trust

(18) How does John demonstrate humility in John 1:26-27?

(19) According to Titus 3:1 what is required to “be ready for every good work”?

(20) Why do we need to be reminded of this teaching frequently? What is the best way to remind your children of this principle?

(21) According to Colossians 4:6, what does it mean, in practical terms, to :let your speech always be seasoned with grace?

(22) What are the qualities of salt? How can these qualities be reflected in your speech?

FOCUS WORDS

GODLY CHARACTERISTICS

- wholesome communication
- gentleness, kindness, patience
- submission one to another

RESPECT

ADMIRE
UNEQUALLY YOKED
BONDED
RIGHTEOUSNESS
HUMILITY
GRACE

LESSON 7: A Growing Relationship With The Lord

Our salvation is only the first step in establishing a relationship with the Father

Salvation is the step that establishes our relationship with God. It is however, only the first step in that relationship

(1) What does John 6:29, 40 say about securing our salvation?

How A child Learns to Pray

I. A child mimics the way his parents pray in both terminology and attitude.

(2) How can we help our children now so that they will continue to grow in the Lord all their lives?

(3) What part does prayer play in these things?

(4) What has been your experience with prayer? How did you learn to pray?

(5) Who do you mimic when you pray-who was your prayer teacher?

(6) Do you have an intimate relationship with God?

(7) How does your attitude toward God reflect in your prayers?

(8) When you pray to God do you use a special “prayer language” or normal, everyday speech? Do you kneel?

II. What you pray for will be what your child prays for

(9) Do you feel that you can pray to God about anything?

(10) Read I Timothy 2:1-2. Define each of the following types of prayer:

-supplication

-intercession

-giving thanks

(11) How often do you pray each type of prayer? How often do you include your children in those times of prayer?

III. What your child hears you pray on his behalf will have great impact on his life

(12) According to Philippians 1:3-6 and Colossians 1:9-12 what specific things does Paul pray for in these passages?

(13) What specific things do you pray for your children?

IV. A child whose prayers are invited begins to grow in his own relationship with God

(14) Does God always answer our prayers?

(15) According to Matthew 18:19-20 why is it important that you spend time praying together with your child?

(16) Start a prayer journal (if you have not already done so). Write down dates and requests, leaving room for the date of the answer.

Praise and Thanksgiving

(17) How did Jesus teach His disciples to begin and end their prayer according to Matthew 6:9, 13?

(18) According to Philippians 4:6-7, what is the cure for anxiety?

(19) What do prayer and thanksgiving have to do with guarding our hearts and minds? How can you begin to guard your children's hearts and minds this way?

Developing A Listening Heart

God speaks in a still, small voice to our hearts, and it is up to each of us to open our spiritual ears and listen intently.

(20) According to Psalm 100:4-5 what does it mean to "enter into his gates" and "into His courts"? Why are we to begin these things with thanksgiving and praise?

(21) Make a list of things that you are thankful for. Have your children add to the list things they are thankful for

FOCUS WORDS

SALVATION

MIMIC

PRAISE

PRAYER (Supplication, Intercession, Giving Thanks)

REALIGNMENT: the act or instance of restoring or changing to a previous or different position

Focus on Family
Leaving A Legacy That Matters

Week 3
Capable
of
Overcoming

Lesson 4: An Awareness of Capability

Lesson 9: Overcoming Problems and Unpleasant Situations

Pastor's Emphasis: Recovery

Focus on Family

Leaving A Legacy That Matters

WEEK 3: CAPABLE OF OVERCOMING

Before we can “overcome” difficulties, we must first “know” and “believe” that we can (are capable of overcoming)

LESSON 4: An Awareness of Capability

An awareness of capability is an important foundation for a child to believe that he has something of eternal benefit to offer the world

Our capability in Christ includes spiritual gifts-those that the Holy Spirit imparts to us as permanent ministry gifts, and those that the Holy Spirit imparts to us temporarily as He wills.

- (1) What are your own capabilities? What are your child’s God-given talents?**
- (2) How does it feel to know that you are good at something and that what you do helps others? How much do you encourage your children’s gifts and talents?**

Every Child Is Gifted

Each person has been given talents and abilities from birth. The challenge for most parents is that a child’s God-given gifts may not be the gifts that the parent wanted his child to have.

Parents must understand that their spiritual gifts may be different from that of their child. The goal is to help a child discover “his” gifts, both natural and spiritual.

- (3) What should we be training our children to do when they grow up?**
- (4) How can you identify your child’s natural abilities?**
- (5) Read Proverbs 22:6. What does it mean in practical terms, to “train up a child in the way that he should go”?**

**(6) What ministries might God be planning for your children in the future?
How can you train them now to exercise those gifts later?**

Unique and Wonderful Gifts

No two people will function in their gifts in precisely the same way. We each have (S.H.A.P.E.)

- skills
- heart (passion)
- abilities
- personalities (emotional temperament)
- experiences (life experiences)

**(7) Do you give thanks to God for the gifts and talents that He has given you?
Or do you sometimes wish that He'd given you different abilities?**

(8) What gifts and talents does the world esteem the highest? Lowest? What does Isaiah 54:16 suggest about that attitude?

Three Key Principles Regarding Your Child's Gifts

I. we must discover and develop God's gifts

(9) What does II Timothy 1:6 remind believers to do?

(10) What does it mean, in practical terms, to "stir up the gift of God which is in you"?

(11) What are you doing to "stir up" the gifts that God has given you? To stir up your children's (others') gifts?

II. God commands us to use our gifts as a means of serving Him and building up the Body of Christ

(12) According to John 15:16, what does it mean to "go and bear fruit"? What does it mean "that your fruit should remain"?

(13) What things can you do this week to help your children (someone else) to "go and bear fruit" ?

III. God wants us to use our gifts in love, with humility, and in peace

- (14) According to Revelation 7:12 what belongs to God?
- (15) Based on John 15:4-5 what does it mean to “abide” in Christ? Give practical examples of how this is done.
- (16) Do you tend to rely on your own abilities, or to ask God regularly for help and guidance? What are you teaching your children in this regard?
- (17) Read Proverbs 12:24. What things have you been diligent in developing in your own life? What areas do you tend to be more lazy in?
- (18) How can you train your children to be diligent-without being over-bearing or nagging?
- (19) Read Ecclesiastes 9:10. What is Solomon’s reason for urging us to be diligent in our work? What does death have to do with developing gifts and talents?
- (20) Why does Solomon combine “knowledge” and “wisdom” with works of the hands (“work or device”)? What part does wisdom play in developing our gifts and talents?

FOCUS WORDS

OVERCOME

CAPABLE

AWARE

NATURAL ABILITIES

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

TALENTS

PURPOSE

FOCUS

S.H.A.P.E. (skills, heart (passion), abilities, personality, experiences)

POTENTIAL

PATIENCE

DISCIPLINE

DILIGENCE

EMBODIED

MANIFEST

LESSON 9: Overcoming Problems and Unpleasant Situations

Christians are not immune from problems and trials. We must recognize the true source of problems and face them squarely in the power of the Holy Spirit

Paul taught that a person can be content in any condition and that a believer in Christ Jesus can live victoriously in unpleasant situations.

- (1) What is the difference between problems and unpleasant situations?**
- (2) How can we teach our children to overcome both?**
- (3) What does Paul teach us in I Peter 2:15-16 about freedom in Christ?**
- (4) What lesson did Paul say he learned in Philippians 4:11-13? How is this lesson learned?**
- (5) How much contentment do your children see in your own attitudes? If they grow up imitating you, how likely are they to find contentment?**
- (6) In Romans 5:3-4, what did Paul say he gloried in?**
- (7) Give practical examples of how tribulation produces perseverance, and how perseverance produces character.**
- (8) Why does character produce hope? Why are these qualities important in your children's lives?**

Two Key Principles for Overcoming the Unpleasant

Paul placed emphasis on two key principles in overcoming the unpleasant

I. Obedience

- (9) What did Paul write in Ephesians 6:5-8 that servants are to do?**
- (10) What does it mean to obey "with eyeservice"? When have you seen this behavior in your children?**
- (11) What principle was Jesus teaching in Matthew 21:28-31?**

II. Diligence

God sees and rewards "what we do" as well as "our attitude" while doing it

- (12) Read Colossians 3:17. Give practical examples from your own life of ways that you can “do all in the name of the Lord Jesus”. Give practical ways that you can teach this principle to your children (others).**
- (13) What illustration did Jesus use in Matthew 25:14-30 to demonstrate how God views faithfulness?**
- (14) What does Ephesians 6:4 urge fathers to do? Give practical examples of ways that a parent might provoke his children to wrath.**
- (15) What is the “training and admonition of the Lord”? How does a parent bring up children that way?**

Problems Versus Unpleasant Situations

Sin and evil are the source of all problems. The unjust persecution of God’s people is also a problem in God’s eyes.

The Solution to Sin-related Problems

- confession of that sin to God
- repentance

- (16) According to Psalm 32:5, what is the solution to problems that arise from our own sin?**
- (17) When have you tried to hide your own sin? When have your children discovered them just the same?**
- (18) When you lose your temper or hurt your child, how often do you apologize to him? What is the relation between confessing sin to God and asking forgiveness from others?**

The Solution to Persecution-Related Problems

- prayer
- trusting God
- doing good to the persecutor

Endurance of any persecution related to faith results in a great reward from God.

- (19) According to these scripture passages: Psalm 142:6; Romans 12:19; Deuteronomy 32:43; Nahum 1:2; Matthew 5:10, 44-45, how are believers**

to respond when faced with persecutors?

(20) When have you been persecuted for your faith in God? When have your children been persecuted for their faith?

(21) How do you respond to people who treat you badly? What situations are your children presently facing that can serve as lessons in loving their enemies?

The Solution for Satan-Created Problems

Satan works through persecutors and through evil people to create negative situations in our lives-intended to destroy us and demolish our witness for Christ.

(20) Read Ephesians 6:10-17. Describe how each piece of armor is worn and what it does

-belt	-shield
-breastplate	-helmet
-shoes	-sword

(21) Give practical examples of each piece of armor, and how you and your children can use them this week.

(22) Once we have put on the Armor of God, what does Ephesians 6:18 say we are to do?

(23) What does James 4:7-8 say we are to do?

(24) Give practical examples of what it means to “resist the devil”. Give practical examples of what it means to “draw near to God”.

(25) Read Titus 2:9-10. Put the following principles into your own words:

-be obedient	-don't pilfer
-be well-pleasing	-show good fidelity
-don't answer back	

(26) How can these principles apply in your job or other daily responsibilities?

(27) Read Proverbs 19:18. When is the time of “hope” in a child’s life, in terms of discipline?

(28) What does this verse imply regarding discipline in a child’s life? Why? What responsibility does this place upon a parent? Upon a mentor?

FOCUS WORDS

PROBLEM

UNPLEASANT SITUATION

CONTENT

TRIBULATION

SOLUTION

OBEDIENT

DILIGENT

PROVOKE

ADMONITION

PERSECUTION

SATAN CREATED PROBLEMS

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

ARMOR OF GOD

ENDURANCE

TEMPTATION

RESIST

DISCIPLINE

Focus on Family
Leaving A Legacy That Matters

Week 4
Walking
Into
Blessings

Lesson 5: An Ability to Walk In The Spirit

Lesson 10: In Position to Receive God's Rewards

Pastor's Emphasis: Resources

Focus on Family
Leaving A Legacy That Matters

WEEK 4: WALKING INTO BLESSINGS

God is a Spirit; we must worship Him in spirit and in truth if we are to know and receive the blessings God has promised us

LESSON 5: An Ability to Walk In the Spirit

No-one can receive Christ on behalf of someone else; that is a decision that must be made individually

Parents face three challenges in teaching a child to walk in the Spirit:

-Leading Your Child to Christ

Your responsibility as a Christian parent is to champion the truth about Jesus Christ as Savior (not to give your child options about what may or may not be true).

- (1) What does it mean to “walk in the Spirit”?
- (2) What does the scripture passage in Acts 26:9-19 describe?
- (3) When and how did you accept Jesus as your Savior? Write down and share your story with your children (or someone else) this week.
- (4) According to I John 1:9, what must we do to receive salvation?
- (5) What is the difference between being “forgiven” for sins and being “cleansed from all unrighteousness”?
- (6) What does Jesus teach us in John 14:6 concerning the path to God?
- (7) Put into your own words these claims of Jesus:
 - The way
 - The truth
 - The life

-Saying No to Temptation

The way your child learns to say no to temptation is to see you say no to temptation.

(8) Read James 4:7-8. How does a person do each of the following?

- submit to God**
- resist the devil**
- draw near to God**
- cleanse your hands**
- purify your hearts**

-Walking in the Spirit

Walking in the Spirit is a daily process. It is trusting and relying upon the Holy Spirit every day for guidance and courage. Each of us must choose daily to be “filled” with God’s Spirit so that everything we say and do is a genuine reflection of Christ Jesus.

There are four vital aspects of walking in the Spirit

I. The Holy Spirit wants us to be separated from everything that is contrary to God’s Will

(9) According to Ephesians 5:8-11, 17, what does “walking in the Spirit” involve?

(10) According to Ephesians 4:25, 31-32 and Ephesians 5:3-4, 18, what are some behaviors that are contrary to the Will of God? Make a list of things Paul tells us not to do. Make a list of things Paul tells us to do.

II. We have a responsibility to yield ourselves entirely to Christ

Each of us is under authority to someone

(11) What does Jesus teach in Matthew 6:24 concerning two masters?

(12) What do Luke 7:1-10 and Ephesians 6:1 teach us about yielding?

(13) According to I Peter 5:5, what is the best way for your children to learn how to be submissive?

(14) How well do you submit to others?

III. To be cleansed from all sin and yielded to the Holy Spirit results in a life of great joy!

- (15) What does Paul call believers to do in Ephesians 5:18-20?
(16) According to Nehemiah 8:10, what is the “joy of the Lord”?
(17) In what ways can the “joy of the Lord” bring a person strength? Give Practical examples.

IV. As the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, we must ask for immediate Forgiveness

(18) According to James 1:12, what does it mean to “endure temptation”?

FOCUS WORDS

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

PREDISPOSITION

HOLY SPIRIT

LEADING A CHILD TO CHRIST

TESTIMONY

SALVATION

CONTRARY

YIELD TO CHRIST: to transfer all control over to Him (possessions, use of talents, time, gifts, and resources)

INTERCEDE

EXUBERANCE

CONVICT

LESSON 10: In Position to Receive God’s Rewards

Good stewardship and generosity are the keys that unlock God’s storehouse of blessing

From the Bible standpoint, a successful life means

- training your child to be a good steward of all his resources first and foremost, his life
- be a generous giver to God’s work and to those in need

Good Stewardship

Our attitude toward money must be free of envy, greed, and idolatry

- (1) What does success mean in terms of leaving a legacy?**
- (2) Where do we draw the line between working hard and giving generously?**
- (3) How can we train our children to receive God's blessings and rewards?**
- (4) What does Matthew 6:20-21, 33 urge us to do?**
- (5) Read Colossians 3:5. Why does Paul say that covetousness (or materialism) is idolatry? Why is materialism listed alongside fornication and other "really bad sins"?**
- (6) What does it mean to "put to death your members"? What sort of "death" is involved in overcoming materialism?**

Our position toward money should be neutral-it is what we do with money that counts

- (7) Read Proverbs 1:18-19. Explain how being greedy for gain is like plotting against your own life.**
- (8) What is your own attitude toward material possessions? What attitude are you seeing reflected in your children's lives?**

We are commanded to work honestly

- (9) What is the connection in II Thessalonians 3:10-12 between not working and being a busybody?**
- (10) What is your child's attitude toward work? How much does this reflect your own attitude?**

We are commanded to trust God to provide what we need and to guide our work

- (11) What are your emotional responses to the following words?**
 - work**
 - prosperity**
 - greed**
- (12) Read Proverbs 13:11. Where is the balance between trusting God to provide for our needs, and being responsible to earn a living?**

Generosity in Giving

Those who give generously will receive generously.

-tithing is an act of faith that we are trusting God to grow the seed that we plant and cause it to multiply on our behalf

Jesus taught specific things about our giving

(13) What does Malachi 3:8-12 teach about tithing regularly?

(14) Read II Corinthians 9:6-7. Explain how being generous is similar to sowing and reaping crops.

(15) What specific things does Jesus teach about giving in the following passages?

-Matthew 23:23-28

-Mark 12:41-44

-Matthew 6:1-4

-Acts 20:35

The tithe is the standard for giving to God's work.

(16) What truth does I Chronicles 29:14 teach us about all that we have?

(17) According to II Corinthians 9:7-8, what is the most important aspect of tithing? How can a person gain this?

(18) According to these verses, for what purpose does God bless us when we tithe cheerfully?

Your Children Follow in Your Footsteps

(19) What does Proverbs 12:24 warn against?

(20) Who do you know who has risen to success through hard work? Who has been forced into menial tasks because of laziness?

(21) How can you teach diligence to your children (others)?

FOCUS WORDS

POSITION

SUCCESS

STOREHOUSE

STEWARDSHIP

ENVY

GREED

IDOLATRY

ATTITUDE

COVET

ABLE-BODIED

BUSYBODY

PROSPERITY

GENEROUS

INCREASE

TITHES

SOWING

REAPING

LAZY

DILIGENT

RESOURCES:

