



Session 3: Love Well

To view the video for this session, go to <http://www.ariseministries.net/bible-study>

This week's challenge is to love well. For a mother, loving our children comes naturally. From the first moment we laid eyes on our newborn baby, our heart swelled with affection. As they grow, our parenting shifts from training them for first time obedience to shepherding their hearts. Jesus demonstrated this for us. He taught us obedience is important, but the condition of our heart is the wellspring of life. How does that affect the legacy of faith we are leaving? Moms who take time to know their child's heart, and parent with the goal of always pointing them to Christ, are passing on important spiritual values.

1. Read the key scripture passages for this study.

Exodus 2:1-10

Hebrews 11:23-27

2. How did Moses' mother, Jochebed describe her son in each of these verses? Use different Bible translations and compare the words used to describe him.
(<http://www.youversion.com> is a helpful website for reading various translations.)

Exodus 2:2

Hebrews 11:23

3. Think about when you first saw your child and thought, "How beautiful!" Read the scriptures and note how the truth of God's Word helps you see the beauty of your child's heart.

Psalms 127:3

Psalms 139:13-16

Matthew 18:1-3

4. When we choose to see our children as God sees them, how does it deepen our love for them?

5. Loving our children well means providing godly wisdom and correction in times of disobedience or disappointment. What role does God's Word play in our parenting in these types of situations? Read these scriptures and write the main thought of each.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 4:12

6. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. What does it mean to "look at the heart?" How can you "parent to the heart" of your child?

7. *The video mentions this statement regarding parenting. *"Being bound by rules only sets us up for fulfilling an obligation. Being surrendered to relationships sets us up for fulfilling a calling."* As a parent, why is it important to build up and strengthen the relationship with our children rather than focusing *only* on strict adherence to rules?

8. When disobedience occurs, do you take time to speak God's Word to your child in a way that reaches their heart? How does that impact the legacy of faith you are leaving to them?

9. The way a child first views the love of God is often shaped by their perception of a parent's love for them. Based on your relationship, how do you think your child views the love of God? (distant, harsh, conditional, forgiving, merciful, understanding, etc.)

10. What steps can you take to love your children well and point them to the heart of God through your relationship?

Lord, teach me to reflect Your love through my relationship with my children. When disobedience occurs, give me Your heart to lead them with wisdom toward reconciliation. Help me love them as Jesus loved people and give me eyes to see them as beautiful and extraordinary young people. Thank you for the opportunity to parent their hearts and point them to You. Amen.

Notes for Thrive Group Discussion:

1. Briefly share your thoughts on the video, [Session 3: Love Well](#).
2. Talk about your thoughts regarding rules and relationships.
3. Discuss the questions marked with *. If time allows, share answers to other questions from the study.
4. Exchange ideas about how we can impart God's truth in different situations to show them love.
5. Pray for the needs in your group.

To connect with a **Thrive Group**, inquire at www.ariseministries.net/thrive.

To share your thoughts regarding this study, contact us at connect@ariseministries.net.

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