



4 Essentials for a Flourishing Family

SERMON STUDY - 11.23.2025

Leader Corner

Intentional Parenting

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

One-Week Small Group Study: Intentional Parenting & the Four Essentials for a Flourishing Family

Main Idea:

Flourishing families are not formed accidentally—they grow through intentional choices shaped by the way of Jesus. Drawing from Brook Mosser and the Comber family's framework, the four essentials of a flourishing family are:

1. Clarity of Purpose (living from God's calling for your family)
2. Consistent Presence & Connection
3. Grace-Filled Discipline & Boundaries
4. Christ-Centered Rhythms & Practices

Main Passage:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 – Moses calls Israel to love God wholeheartedly and to diligently pass that love on to their children through intentional, daily practices.

One Main Practice for the Week:

Family Intentionality Check-In: Sometime this week, set aside 20–30 minutes with your spouse or with a trusted parenting partner to identify one area where your family can grow in intentionality (purpose, presence, discipline, or rhythms), and choose one simple change to begin implementing.

Connect with Prayer & Praise

Liturgy Prayer (Group Reads Aloud Together):

Father, You are the One who lovingly parents us with patience, truth, and grace.

Teach us to reflect Your heart in our homes.

Form our families into places of peace, connection, and discipleship.

*Give us wisdom in our decisions, compassion in our corrections,
and joy in the everyday moments.*

*May Your Spirit guide our words, shape our habits,
and root our children deeply in Your love.*

Amen.

Worship Song Suggestion:

"The Blessing" – Kari Jobe & Cody Carnes

(Themes of generational faithfulness and God's presence in the family.)

with Principle

1. How did Sunday's sermon impact you and your parenting?
2. Which of the four essentials stood out to you the most, and why?
(Clarity of purpose, connection/presence, grace-filled discipline, Christ-centered rhythms)
3. Where do you feel your family currently flourishes, and where do you feel scattered or reactive?
4. How do you currently communicate purpose, values, or vision in your home (or how might you begin)?
5. What is one connection-building rhythm you wish you had more consistently in your family?

with Practice

Choose one or two:

1. Create a 2–3 sentence Family Purpose Statement.
Something simple like: "Our family exists to follow Jesus, love one another deeply, and be a blessing in our neighborhood." Post it somewhere visible.
2. Start one small rhythm of presence.
Ideas:
 - 10 minutes of "undistracted connection" per child each day
 - Family prayer before bed
 - One shared meal with phones put away
 - A weekly family Sabbath moment (lighting a candle, praying blessing)

for Further Study

Reflective Questions About Your Childhood:

- What is one thing your parents did that you deeply appreciate and want to pass on?
- What is something you wish you had received more of (presence, encouragement, boundaries, spiritual formation, etc.)?
- How have these experiences shaped your parenting—for better or for tension?

Additional Passages on Godly Parenting & Faith Formation:

- Proverbs 22:6 - Training children in the way they should go.
- Psalm 127:1–5 - Children as a heritage from the Lord.
- Ephesians 6:1–4 - Parents not provoking children but raising them in the Lord's instruction.
- Colossians 3:12–17 - The character of Christ lived out in relationships.
- 1 Thessalonians 2:7–12 - Paul models parental imagery of gentleness, encouragement, and exhortation.
- 2 Timothy 1:5 - Faith passed down through family generations.

Scriptural Examples of Godly Parenting:

- Hannah and Samuel (1 Samuel 1–2) - Dedicating children to God's purposes.
- Mary and Joseph (Luke 2) - Faithful stewardship and attentive obedience.
- Lois and Eunice (2 Timothy 1) - Generational discipleship.
- The Father in Luke 15 - Grace-filled love and restorative discipline.