

# HOME STUDY GUIDE

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## WEEK 5: BROUGHT UP IN THE INSTRUCTION OF THE LORD

**Primary Passage:** Psalm 127

**Related Passages:** Ephesians 6:1-2, Ephesians 6:4, Hebrews 12:7-11

*“Unfortunately, when you let contemporary American kids do whatever makes them happy, the result is likely to be teenage girls who spend all their time on Instagram or Snapchat, and teenage boys whose favorite pastimes are video games and pornography. As a family physician, I have seen the long-term consequences first-hand. That fifteen-year-old boy seemed quite content spending his free time just as he pleased. But eighteen years later, at age 33, he has a growing sense that life should be about more than video games and masturbation... And he lashes out in anger, often anger against his own parents, for reasons he struggles to put into words...”*

- Leonard Sax, MD, PhD - Collapse of American Parenting

### LIFEGROUP STUDY GUIDE FOR PARENTS:

**Recap:** Get someone in your group to recap the high points from the sermon.

**Read Ephesians 6:1-4.** Paul describes God’s overall design for family structure and then instructs parents to bring up their children in the instruction and discipline of the Lord.

- When it comes to instruction, do you have planned, reactive and repetitious routine times of instruction with your children?
- Are you training them in holistic life maturity including Biblical, gospel-training? Where do you need to grow?
- When it comes to discipline, do you have any kind of repetitions pattern and script for your kids? Are you consistent in your discipline? What factors tend to make your consistency slump (tiredness, anger, annoyance, etc.)?
- Do you escalate consequences until your kids realize sin isn’t worth it? Do you tend to over do it with consequences or not give enough?

**Read Galatians 5:13-15 and 22-23.** Where do you most need to rest in the freedom Jesus has purchased for you and allow the Holy Spirit to bear fruit in your parenting?

**Pray** - Spend some time praying for each other to rest in the freedom of the gospel and rely on God’s Spirit in the task of bringing up kids in the instruction and discipline in the Lord.

## ***LIFEGROUP STUDY GUIDE FOR NON-PARENTS:***

**Recap:** Get someone in your group to recap the high points from the sermon.

**Read Ephesians 6:1-3.** Paul describes God's overall design for family structure. Without too much detail, what was your family like growing up? Were your parents loving and Godly? What are you most thankful about what your parents have given to you?

**Read Ephesians 5:1-2 and Hebrews 12:7-11.** Based on your family, is it easy or difficult for you to relate to beloved child who sees God as a loving Father?

- Do you need to proactively forgive your parents for ways they didn't perfectly encourage or discipline you growing up?
- How do you need to grow in trusting God as you submit yourself to His instruction and discipline?

**Read Psalm 127:1-5.** The Psalmist says there is a community responsibility to fashion the next generation of children as arrows to be shot out into the world.

- What families, parents and kids has God put around you for you to help take responsibility to fashion the kids as arrows to be shot out?

**Pray** for the parents in our church family who are actively working to fashion arrows to be shot out into the heart of darkness.

**Pray** for God to continue to invite children from our city who have no families/parents or exceedingly broken family situations into our church family.

**Pray** for God to show you opportunities to join Him in seeing the next generation of arrows parents trained up to love Jesus and build His kingdom.