

SERIES BIG IDEA:

Raising children with eternity in mind brings clarity as to how we live toward the target.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

We train children to release them, then trust Jesus to oversee them.

TEACHING SUMMARY:

This teaching addresses how we raise children to be released into the world. Releasing children requires parents to have balance between protection and preparation as well as between restrictions and freedom. Parents should unconditionally love their children; establish boundaries; provide children the liberty to choose and fail; and lead and challenge their children. Training a child requires that parents release their children to God for His purpose and then trust God to oversee them.

TALK IT OVER (DISCUSS ONE OR MORE):

Read Proverbs 22:6. How do you train up a child in the way they should go? What does it mean that children will not depart from the training even when they are old?

Respond to Kevin Leman's quote: "An unhappy child is a healthy child."

What behaviors in our children could challenge our unconditional love? What behaviors in us challenge our perception of God's unconditional love toward us?

What type of boundaries did you have growing up? What boundaries do you need to establish for your children? How can those boundaries communicate your love for them?

How can allowing children to fail be good for them?

How do you communicate your expectations to your children? What are ways that you can challenge and lead children? How does Colossians 3:23 challenge parents in how we lead children?

OTHER SCRIPTURES TO READ:

Deuteronomy 11:19

Ephesians 5:31

Proverbs 29:15 & 17 / Proverbs 13:24