

# #RoleCall

## Parent

## Community Group DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

We are beginning a short series that addresses some of the roles we fill as we go through life. Obviously, we will not be able to address all of them but we picked three and over the next three weeks we will be taking a look at how we can make the best use of some of the roles we have been given or have chosen.

**Community Group Leaders:** This week marks the beginning of the final three weeks of Community Group for this trimester. It would be great to plan to get together occasionally over the summer months and have everyone mark their calendars for the week of September 11<sup>th</sup> when we will launch groups for the fall.

**Discussion Facilitators:** Recommended questions are highlighted in **bold**, but feel free to choose the questions you think will work best for your group and discussion. You most likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time.

**POSSIBLE ICEBREAKER:** (Keep it short. Longer than 10 minutes isn't an ice-breaker – it's a conversation.)

**If you could have picked any fictional character from a television show, movie, or book to be one of your real parents, who would you choose?**

**OPENING THE DISCUSSION:** (As people share, utilize follow-up questions to keep the discussion as natural as possible.)

- **What was your biggest takeaway from this weekend's message? What one thing have you been thinking about (a new idea, question, challenge, or an application)?**
- **Do you take after your parents spiritually? Would you say you are more committed, less committed, or just as committed as your parents when they were your present age?**
- What fears do you have regarding your children, grandchildren, or future children?
- **How often did spiritual discussions happen in the home you grew up in? Was it too much, too little, or just right to help you grow spiritually?**
- How can parents know if they are being successful at parenting?
- How have you seen hypocrisy by others (parents, church leaders, friends, yourself) influence you, your friends, or your family?

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9 & Ephesians 6:4

Big Idea: Your role as a parent is to show and tell Jesus to your kids.

- If "Success in parenting is measured by what the parents do, not by what the child does," then what do these verses tell parents they should do? Why do you think this is so important?
- **What deficits in your spiritual upbringing do you need to correct in your own spiritual life?**
- **What are some ways you have seen kids be exasperated by their parents?**

- If you are not a parent, what can you do right now to help you spiritually influence your future children or other children in your life?
- **How does the Gospel give you hope in your failures as a parent?**

#### **APPLYING THE MESSAGE:**

- If your kids will eventually become like you, what is one area of your life you could be a better example to your kids or those who you do life with? (This may be a good questions for prayer time)
- How do you (or did you if empty-nesters) intend to be like and/or unlike your parents in the spiritual training of your children?
- **How are you currently responding to your Heavenly Father's parenting?**

#### **PRAYER TIME**

We will encourage you every week to ask each other how you can pray for **each other** today and through the week. Emphasize the "each other" direction of your prayer time together to help everyone focus on praying for growth and application of truth in their **own** lives. Other prayer requests can be shared but encourage those prayer requests to be shared during the week so they don't consume the time you have to pray for each other. For example: Ask, "how can we pray for **each other** tonight?" instead of, "are there any prayer requests?" Splitting between men and women typically make the prayer time more effective.