Partner Discussion Questions

Have you ever been a part of a vision or hear of a vision that greatly impacted your life?

If so, how did it affect your daily decisions and life choices?

Influence of the Family

Two main influencers in the life of a child: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Families are the number one spiritual influencers in the lives of children. Parents have:

* lots of time with their children throughout the week.
* access to the spiritual formation of their children.
* daily opportunities for ongoing discipleship.

To equip and disciple a generation of globally-minded children, churches must partner with parents for lasting impact.

Jurisdiction

Four main components of Scripture:

1. Doctrine – truth of God
2. Righteousness – will of God
3. Methodology- way of God (how we do things)
4. Jurisdiction- call of God (who does it)

Jurisdiction – God has assigned tasks and commands to four groups:

1. individuals
2. family
3. church
4. government

We have transferred the role of discipling believing children from the family to the church.

We need to help parents understand their biblical role as disciplers of their own children, equip them to live it out, and release them to do their job.

Church’s Role

The role of the church is not only to help children begin a life with Jesus, but also to equip and release them into ministry. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

Model of Abraham

How does family fit into God’s global mission?

Macro calling – blessed to be a blessing to the nations (Genesis 18:18)

Specific calling – leading his children and household in righteousness and justice (Genesis 18:19)

Abraham advanced the global mission of God by making his home a discipleship center.

Foundations of Family Discipleship

Cultivating your home into a discipleship center for your children is core to raising a generation of life-long, world changing followers of Jesus.

*“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.**Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates*.” (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

Living It Out in the Home

Make the person and purpose of Christ a part of everyday life. (Deuteronomy 6:7-8)

Attitudes and actions that children learn in the home become a part of who they are as young people and adults and are carried with them after they leave home.

God-Sized Vision

Parenting is not an isolated day-by-day event. Your job as parents is to train your children in the ways of the Lord and help them develop into the future men and women that God desires them to be.

Where are you launching your children? You need to know where you are going. If you want certain things for your sons and daughters, you must have a plan to get them there.

Target – children who are lights in a dark world and have hearts that desire to bring God glory among all the peoples of the earth.

Be Intentional

Be intentional with your words, with your time, and with the choices you make.

Take time every day to reflect on God’s Word, His work, and the world.

Everyday moments – Use the blocks of time you already spend with your children like walking to school, driving across town, eating dinner, waking up, and going to bed.

Everyday objects – Use nature and things around you to teach your children truth about who God is.

Target – help our children see how Jesus is central in everything, to live a life where He is a part of all our moments.

Model Your Faith

Before we impress the truths of God on the hearts of our children, we are to love God and have His Word on our own hearts. (Deuteronomy 6:5)

The most important factor in building a family legacy is to authentically live out our faith both in front of and with our children.

Demonstration and experience are the keys to developing a heartbeat for the purposes of God in our families.

Target – teach your children truth, to show them what it looks like to be a disciple of Jesus, and to model for them how to see others not as sinners but as sheep without a Shepherd, just as Jesus did.