

WRITE IT ON THEIR HEARTS

Discussion Guide

INTRODUCTION

Who Is Discipling Your Children?

1. What are the main areas the culture is discipling children in? Where does this discipling happen?
2. Can you think of anyone who turned away from Christ as an adult? Have you ever been tempted to turn away? What are the most common causes of this temptation?
3. How would you summarize your purpose as a parent?
4. Share a little about your family. Who are your kids? How old are they? What does a typical week look like for you all?
5. What's your plan for discipling your family currently? How do you hope to grow in this area?

CHAPTER 1

A Crockpot, Not a Microwave: Disciple Them Like Jesus

1. What areas of family life do you struggle to be patient in? Why?
2. When you look back on your parenting twenty years from now, what do you hope you'll see? How does this drive your actions and choices today?
3. "It is God who writes His word on the hearts of His people." How does this strike you? Does it change your perspective on any elements of parenting and discipleship?
4. Can you think of some examples of Jesus spending intentional time with his disciples? What similar opportunities for intentional time do you have with your family?
5. Love, prayer, connection, Scripture, accountability, rest. Which of these 6 elements are you strongest in? Which is the greatest struggle?

CHAPTER 2

Tea Parties, Jiu Jitsu, and the Most Important Thing: Show Them You Love Them

1. In what areas of parenting do you find it hard for love to rule your response?
2. When is your family most transparent with each other? Why do you think that is? Are there ways you can intentionally increase transparency?
3. What have you most loved about getting to know your child? How do you continue to know them and share yourself with them?

4. What do meaningful moments look like for your family? Are there ways you can make more moments like these?
5. Does empathy come naturally to you? How can you grow in this area?

CHAPTER 3

It's Time for the Talk: Teach Them to Pray

1. What is your family prayer life like? How would you like to see it change?
2. Do you think your family focuses more on how to pray or what to pray? Why?
3. Does your family use any prayer models or tools, like the Lord's prayer or ASK?
4. When do you most often find yourself saying, "I'll pray for you?" How can you and your family remember to pray for those needs together consistently?
5. What are some challenges kids face when praying? Knowing what to say? Feeling pressured to be eloquent? How can you address these challenges?

CHAPTER 4

Somedays Never Come: Connect with Them

1. In what contexts does compassion come naturally to you? In what contexts doesn't it?
2. Are there areas where you struggle to be real with your kids? Why?
3. In what ways do you tend to do the opposite of what you say to do? How can you develop accountability to change these?
4. How do you actively engage with your kids? Are there ways you can tailor your engagement to what they care about?
5. What most often gets in the way of connecting with your kids? How can you put measures in place to guard intentional connection times?

CHAPTER 5 The Book Is Better: Teach Them to Read the Bible

1. Do you go to the Word before trying other options? How much of your understanding of God is a result of other people's teaching rather than your own time in the Word?
2. What might it look like in your home to go beyond reading God's Word together to practically applying it?
3. Do you and your family follow a Bible reading plan? Why or why not? Could you use the same one?
4. Do your children see you engaging with God's Word? If not, are there simple changes you could make to ensure they do?
5. What makes Bible reading feel like homework or a chore in your house? How could that change to help your kids love and engage well with God's Word?

CHAPTER 6

Over and Over Again: Hold Them Accountable

1. What connotation does “accountability” have in your mind? How does the idea of “holding your kids capable” strike you?
2. What boundaries are the most challenging in your home? Where do you struggle with consistency?
3. Sharpen, pray, urge, and restore. Which of these four steps are you strongest in? Which is your weakest?
4. What might help your kids understand the importance of “walking worthy?”
5. Do you and your family have conversations about your calling in Christ or your struggles? How could these kinds of conversations fit into your family life?

CHAPTER 7

The Hardest Work You’ll Ever Do: Teach Them to Rest

1. Does your family have margins and space to rest? How do you keep your family from growing too busy?
2. “Often, our restlessness is a result of trying to do what God does.” Can you think of any examples of this in our culture? How about in your own life?
3. Stillness, talking, offer, peace. Which of these aspects of prayer does your family do best? Which is the greatest struggle?
4. Do you see evidence of kids experiencing higher levels of stress, depression, and anxiety in our culture? How about in your family? Why do you think this is the current pattern?
5. Do you find yourself trying to be your child’s source of peace instead of remembering only God can give them peace? What can you do to remind yourself, and your family, of where peace is truly found?