

Mandate vs. Model

Week Five – March 2/3

Refresh

In the life cycle of a family, actions more than words have a ripple-effect into the next generation. Jesus has all the power to mandate people to follow Him, yet never once has He. Instead, His life was lived sacrificially for the good of our tomorrows. He models the ultimate impact of life on the next generation of Christ followers.

Explore

Talk about the household rules when you were growing up. How are those rules different or the same from your current family/household rules? How have those past rules influenced your current family life?

Does God give us His rules (Ten Commandments) to mandate our living or to lovingly put boundaries around our life, so that we can live life to the fullest? How are the rules in your house loving boundaries?

What happens when someone breaks the rules? Talk about your family habit and how you might incorporate and more forgiveness and grace into your family while maintaining healthy boundaries.

Evaluate what behaviors, attitudes, words, etc. that your children are watching and learning from. What can you do now to create the story you want your children to tell about their “growing up” days?