



Series: **This Is US**

Message: **Purposeful Parenting - part 1**

Text: **Proverbs 22:6; Deuteronomy 6:1-6**

Date: **Sunday, May 14, 2017**

Mother's Day

## PURPOSEFUL PARENTING MEANS...

### BE A PARENT

Wisdom is only gained when knowledge and experience and a proper worldview combine.

“The influence on a person’s worldview is heaviest during the years of 18 months old to 13 years old.” (George Barna)

***Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.*** (Proverbs 22:6)

“***Train up***” involves direction and discipline.

### BE A DISCIPLE

The greatest thing you can do for the generations to come is to set them an example of genuine faithfulness.

***1 These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, 2 so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. 3 Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.***

***4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.*** (Deuteronomy 6:1-6)

What you believe matters. How you live it out matters.

If we want our children to be disciples, then we ourselves must follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

As a parent, what were some of your greatest challenges?

As a parent, what were some of your greatest blessings?

How would you complete this sentence? Parenting is...

Whether you have been a parent or not, what are some of the ways godly adults can impact the lives of children for Jesus Christ?

Thinking back to this past Sunday... what challenged you, bothered you, encouraged you, or taught you something new?

How should the reality that a person’s worldview is formed between infancy and 13 years old impact Christian parents and churches?

Have you seen churches that seemed to invest very little in children and youth ministries? Why might churches take this approach?

How can Grace Fellowship be better at investing in children and teens and their families?

What is the danger when a parent is intent on being the child’s friend as they grow up?

Read **Proverbs 22:6**.

Have you known parents who attempted to lead their children to follow Jesus but had a child or children rebel? How do you reconcile this verse with that reality?

What do you believe this verse intends to teach us?

Read **Deuteronomy 6:1-6**.

What do verses 1 and 2 teach about the importance of a person of faith living out that faith in the eyes of our children and grandchildren?

How does knowing God’s Word help us to live a good example in the eyes of the next generation?

Read **Joshua 4:20-24**.

What were the Israelites commanded to do?

Why was it so important?

In what ways can we point our children and grandchildren to the faithfulness of God?