



Series: **This Is US**

Message: **Purposeful Parenting - part 2**

Text: **Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Psalm 23:1-4**

Date: **Sunday, May 21, 2017**

PURPOSEFUL PARENTING MEANS...

BE A PARENT

BE A DISCIPLE

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

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.

BE A SHEPHERD

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.

³ He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

(Psalm 23:1-4)

- The shepherd's role is to know and meet the needs of the sheep. (1)
- The shepherd's role is to make sure the sheep are nourished. (2)
- The shepherd's role is to keep them from danger. (2,4)
- The shepherd's role is to bring back the wandering sheep or to refresh those who are exhausted. (3)
- The shepherd's role is to lead, protect, and comfort the sheep in dark and difficult times. (4)

God's truth should be everywhere in our lives and in our homes.

Shepherding the next generation -

- Care as much for their souls as you do their physical and emotional well being.
- Let your life be an example for them of what it means to follow Jesus.
- Be the same person at home as you are at church.
- Pray with and for your children and grandchildren.
- Let your children and grandchildren see you reading God's Word.
- Show your children the value of being part of a local church by doing more than showing up from time to time.
- Commit yourself to growing spiritually in order to set an example for the next generations.
- Be ready to lead your child or your grandchild to accept Jesus as Savior and Lord when the time is right.

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

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and Psalm 119:11.

Why was it so important that God's people take His commands seriously?

In verse 6, God is clear that the commands are to be on their hearts. What is the value of having God's Word in your heart?

Both our words and our actions have an impact on our children and grandchildren. What if our words and actions don't match?

If you haven't mentioned it previously, what was the point of the illustration using marbles?

How are parents to shepherd their children?

What is the value of impressing God's Word on the hearts of the next generation? What is the danger if we do not?

If a child only sees their parent(s) with a Bible in church, what message might that send to the child?

Looking at the suggestions for the Shepherding the Next Generation (above), which of these statements do you believe is most critical in the time in which we live?