



Today's study in our "Re-Thinking Your Life" series is titled, "Re-Thinking Parenting". If there's one thing every parent could agree with it's this – parenting is hard. Simply put, parents don't always know what to do. They want to do right by their children, but often worry about how they're doing. Even if being a parent isn't the calling God has for your life, you can play a critical support role for the parents in your life. The lie that parents most often believe about parenting is: A parent's role is to make their child/children happy. Nearly every parent faces the temptation to buy into this lie (*no pun intended*). However, according to God's Word, the truth about parenting is: A parent's role is to help their child grow in godliness. The most important role a parent will ever play in their child's life is to introduce them to Jesus and help them grow in likeness to Him.

### Discussion Questions

1. Looking back at your notes from Sunday's sermon, what encouraged or challenged you the most?

### Read Ephesians 6:1-4

2. On Sunday we were introduced to the following statement: "A child conforms to fit into the family. The family does not conform to fit with the child." With this in mind, discuss the following:
  - a. What does it look like when the family conforms to the child?
  - b. How can today's "lie" lead parents toward conforming to their child?
  - c. How could conforming to the child negatively impact the relationship between mom and dad?
3. Read Proverbs 22:6. What does it mean that "a child has to see honor in order to show honor"? How can parents best model *honor* in front of their children so that they will learn to follow their example?
4. Honoring your parents can be defined as "giving them public and private respect". As adults, how can we best accomplish this when we do not agree with our parents?
5. Why are fathers specifically referenced in verse 4? How might this connect back to our study from last week regarding a husband's role in the family?
6. Read Proverbs 15:4. What's the key to managing our anger as parents? What impact can a parent's anger have on their child's heart?
7. How can a parent help their children grow in their own relationship with Jesus?
8. What's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away with as a result of today's study?