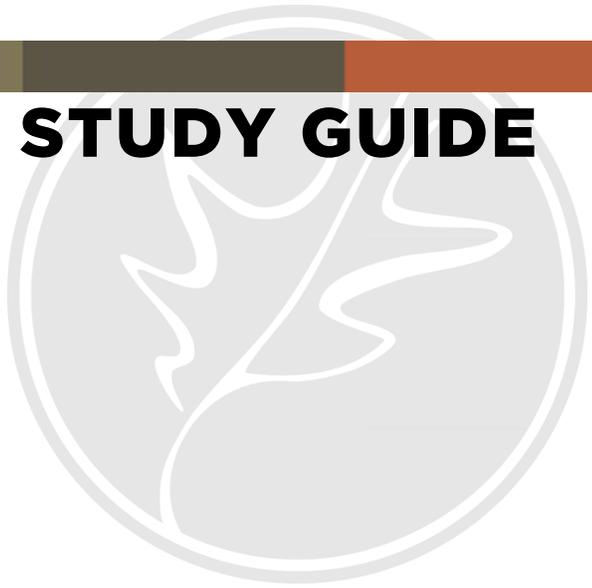


# STUDY GUIDE



## PARENTING 216 08.26.2018

### [start with prayer]

Missions Prayer Focus this week:  
Nick Oleff—Father's Love Ministry

### [set up]

What would you say is the primary goal of a parent?

Can you share an example of someone you have seen who has pursued this well?

### [digging deeper]

Read through Galatians 5:13-15. How can we apply what this Scripture says directly to our parenting hopes and efforts?

How does using our “freedom as an opportunity for the flesh” manifest itself in our parenting?

What are practical ways we can (through love) serve our kids and love them as we love ourselves?

How can the indwelling Holy Spirit of God help us do this when we feel unmotivated or unwilling to love and serve this way?

Read Romans 7:12 and Hebrews 12:6. Now read Psalm 103:13 and Romans 6:14. In our efforts to reflect God's grace toward us for our kids, how do we find the balance of using law (rules) and grace (gracious compassion) in parenting? Give examples of when we are being law heavy and grace light, then give examples of when we are being grace heavy and law light.

In our recommended reading for this series, “Parenting” by Paul Tripp (see link below), Tripp says, “Don't expect law to do what only grace can do.” What does that mean? Where do we go wrong in this area in parenting and how do we work on correcting it?

<https://www.paultripp.com/parenting>

How is it freeing to know that our primary goal is to reflect Jesus the best we can to our kids rather than try and produce a certain type of child?

## **[living it out]**

(Note: It may be more effective to break into groups of 3-4 for this part)

Share a motivating conviction that God has impressed upon you during the message from Sunday and this study time.

What is one action step you will take to turn this conviction into action?

Other than prayer, how can this group help encourage you?

## **[end with prayer]**

Close in prayer in your LifeGroup (or breakout groups) and use Galatians 5:13-16 as a prayer template as you pray for one another. And as you pray for each other and your kids, a humorous but helpful reminder will be that if you *pray for* your kids, you will not *prey on* your kids.