
Recommended Reading:

God, Marriage, and Family by Andreas Kostenberger

Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem (Ch. 37)

Knowing God by J.I. Packer (Ch. 19)

Children of the Living God by Sinclair Ferguson

Course outline:**Week 1 – God’s Purpose for the Family**

Week 2 – The Ministry of the Family

Week 3 – Family Worship

Week 4 – Getting to the Heart of Behavior

Week 5 – Formative Discipline: Our Words to Their Hearts

Week 6 – What to Do When You Can’t Reach the Heart

Week 7 – Corrective Discipline: The Rod of Correction

Week 8 – Panel Discussion

Week 9 – Boys & Fatherhood

Week 10 – Panel of Fathers

Week 11 – Girls & Motherhood

Week 12 – Panel of Mothers

Week 13 – Lessons Kids Need to Learn: Proverbs

Core Seminars—Parenthood**Class 1: God’s Purpose for the Family**

Introduction**1. Significance of children**

- **Three views of children**

- **Children as obstacles**

- **Children as idols**

- **Children as tools**

- **God’s view**

- **Scripture teaches that a primary purpose of the family is nothing less presenting the whole world with a series of three portraits— of God’s triune nature, the Gospel, and the church.**

○ **God's first command to humans**

3. The family presents a portrait of the Gospel

○ **But what about sin?**

2. The family presents a portrait of God Himself

4. The family presents a portrait of the church