

PARENTING ON PURPOSE

SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Session 4: Character Development

Big Idea

Purity of character consists of honesty and honor. The Bible teaches that we should be truthful in our representation of ourselves, as well as thinking of others as better than ourselves. One of the missing pieces in today's body of Christ is the commitment to honor our father and mother. When God delivered this commandment to Moses on Mount Sinai, He demonstrated His plan for real relationships. What God wants from all those who have been brought into personal relationship with Him is simple and clear—we are to *honor* Him. When we start by honoring God, we should then see it multiply to our parents and every relationship in our lives. How can you display honor for God and others for your children so they can then walk it out in relationship with you?

Discussion Questions

1. In this session, Pastor Chris focuses on two essential pillars of character development: honesty and honor. Share about a person in your life who displayed honesty and honor in their character. What did you learn most from that person?
2. Identify behaviors in your home that encourage honesty and honor. Can you identify any behaviors in your home that bring dishonor and discourage honesty?
3. Since culture is not what you say but who you are, what are ways to instill a culture of honesty and honor in your household? What are the benefits?
4. What are some ways you can teach honor to your children?

Next Steps

Honesty is a well-versed value that children will learn early on through your parenting. They will be most influenced by the value of honesty when it is openly displayed by you and your spouse. Likewise, honoring God and others will be best understood by your children when modeled by you in your home. God designed parent-child relationships to be among the most influential of all human relationships. Therefore, fulfilling these values in your home will have the most influence in their life. And teaching your children to honor even when it is not deserved shows the importance of honoring because God has asked this of us, not because someone deserves it or because we feel like it. Honor will show your children the act of forgiveness in relationships that may have hurt them.

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Prayer Focus

“Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.”

Philippians 2:3

Leader Tip

Your primary goal as a small group leader is to uncover the spiritual condition of your group members and walk beside them leading them one step closer to God. Have a conversation with your group members and help them discover how they can move one step toward God. If you need help, go to <http://www.churchofthehighlands.com/groups/one-step> for more information.