



¹Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)

SERIES BIG IDEA:

We are to love and lead in our homes the way our Heavenly Father loves and leads us.

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

Psalms 127:1 (NIV)

I can't. Jesus can. Join Jesus.

Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth.

Psalms 127:4 (NIV)

While all of us are unique, we all need to aim at the same target.

God the Father sent His Son into the world to show us the target.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

Jesus saves us from what our selfish sin destroyed in us—our relationship with God.

God sent Jesus to be with us to make a way for us to forever be with Him.

¹⁹... "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. ²⁰For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed. ²¹For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

²²Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, ²³that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life."

John 5:19-24 (NIV)

¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ²My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going."

John 14:1-4 (NIV)

Jesus teaches us that the target is to know Him and trust in Him so that we can be with Him forever.

¹Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Revelation 21:1-4 (NIV)



TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I will love and lead so that my family wants to be together, forever with Jesus.

- **Following Jesus means that we love one another the way Jesus loves us.**
- **When we all follow Jesus, we will want to be together even when we don't have to be together.**
- **We love one another because being together is the target.**

MY NOTES:



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

We all have goals for our children. We want them to experience a great life. But are your goals aimed at the same target God has for your children?

God sent Jesus into this world to show us that His target is for us to be with Jesus together, forever. If we are to follow God's example, then we should parent our kids so that they want to be with us even when they don't have to be with us. However, we condition our kids to not want to be with us by ignoring them, distracting them, incorrectly disciplining them, and modeling behaviors that break relationships.

When we love and lead in our home toward the target that we want to be together forever with Christ, it will change how we parent our children. We will lead each other to love one another as Christ has loved us.

TALK IT OVER:

What goals have you set for your children?

Did you experience a time when your parents made you feel like they didn't want you to be with them? What do you remember about that time?

How can you modify your goals to reflect the target Jesus shows us, "to be with Him forever?"

Read some "one another's" in scripture. Pick one and share how that "one another" shapes how you can love and lead in your home? (John 13:34-35; Romans 12:10, 17; Ephesians 4:2, 32; Romans 15:5-7; James 5:16; Galatians 5:13; 6:1-2; 1 John 1:6-7; Colossians 3:16)

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

- Mon: Ephesians 4:29-32; 1 Corinthians 1:4-9
- Tue: Matthew 16:13-18; John 14:15-21
- Wed: Romans 1:16-31; Matthew 1:20-22
- Thur: Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 16:13
- Fri: 1 Corinthians 15:42-49
- Sat: John 13:34; Matthew 25:31-46