

# How does God parent?

- He fights for our hearts
  - Gets involved
  - Spends time with us
  - Bestows Identity:
  - Pursues us
  - Redeems us

*Mark 3:17*

*James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means "Sons of Thunder")*

*Matt 16:18*

*And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.*

*Gen 32:28*

*Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."*

*Isa 62:2*

*You will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.*

# Review of last week

- Rethink parenting: “Now it is a battle for their hearts”
  - Watch for their deep question and answer it.
  - Bestow identity.
  - Physical affection.

# He molds our hearts to resemble Christ's

*“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed to the likeness of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”*

Rom 8:29

- Care about what He Cares about
  - Humble/Servant hearted
  - Other Centered
  - Anything but Passive
- \* Value what He values
  - \* Kingdom minded
  - \* Handle Relationships
  - \* True Nobility

*“Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.”*

Isa 64:8

# How does God parent?

## Two primary things

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- **He sets the example, Establishes boundaries and he provides discipline**

*Heb 12:10-13*

*Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, **that we may share in his holiness** No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but **painful**. Later on, however, **it produces a harvest** of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. "Make level paths for your feet," **so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.***

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- **He sets the example, Establishes boundaries and he provides discipline**
  - We lead by example
  - We set some boundaries (training)
  - We provide some discipline to help them learn

- **Setting the example**

- *“My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways”* (Prov. 23:26)

- **Establishing Boundaries**

- Boundaries build security

- Killers of security

- Getting rattled by our kids (choose empathy)

- Not presenting a united front

- Reasoning with our kids to get their buy in

“Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him”

(prov. 22:15)



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