



VALLEY REAL LIFE

Parenthood | When It Doesn't Go Well

Last Week

Did last week's lesson cause you to rethink how you discipline your children?

Opener

Tell us a story about when you as a child, rebelled against something or someone and what was the outcome?

Questions

As parents, why do you think children, raised in the church, rebel against their faith? (**Leaders:** This isn't a question to point blame, but to discuss and understand how this might happen from both the parent and child's point of view.)

Do you find comfort in knowing God understands the pain of a loving Father for his children? What can we learn from God's example that we can put into practice as parents today?

Have you helped introduce a Godly mentor into the lives of your children or have seen the influence of a Godly mentor in their lives? Why do you think this is vital to their spiritual growth?

Why do you think it's hard to confront and/or pursue your children when they need it the most? Do you find it easier or tougher to pray in these instances?

Do you find it difficult to express unconditional love when your children have rebelled against you as a parent? What can you do to help you grow in these situations?

Apply SOAP (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer) to:

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NIV)

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

- *Read the verses out loud together*
- *Share your observations*
- *Discuss Application*
- *Close in Prayer*

Next Steps:

What is your next step to take to help someone who has wandered away from God?

