



Enhanced Study Guide

Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right

Welcome:

The key to Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right is in the title. If we raise our children to go through childhood right (perfectly), for the sake of our reputation and other's opinions, we will focus on their behavior. However, when we focus on their character, we are guaranteed to have some "learning moments" that may even stretch into months and years. But in the end, when we are focused on building character into their hearts, those kids will ultimately turn out right.

Hang on to your hats! You are about to begin one of the most exciting and strategic small group discussions any parent could ever have. Some of what you study will already be part of how you were raised and how you are raising your own children. However, as you look honestly at the irreplaceable priority of character in a child's heart, our prayer is that you will be compelled to first of all live a life of character yourself, and secondly, encourage and equip your child to live a life of character.

This study guide will help you do just that. Blessings!

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Session 1

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Tim lists five items in a “checklist” for designing a plan to live deliberately (see pages 34-35). Rate how deliberately you are developing each of the following areas in your own life (1=least, 5=most):

A. Decision-making skills	1	2	3	4	5
B. Character traits	1	2	3	4	5
C. Commitment to life goals	1	2	3	4	5
D. Survival skills	1	2	3	4	5
E. Sustained relationships	1	2	3	4	5
2. Tim writes of the need to live deliberately (see page 19-20). What do you think he means by this? Do you agree with him? Why or why not?
3. Tim writes of Michael, the man who discovered he was dying of Lou Gehrig’s disease, that “he could formulate a plan to make the days count.” Have you formulated such a plan? If so, are you living by it? If not, why not?

Taking it Deeper

1. How deliberate is your child-rearing? Are you “parenting on purpose”? Explain your answer.
2. Tim writes of the necessity to anticipate needs in the life of your child (see page 34). What needs does your own child have? List them.
3. What sort of adult do you want your child to become? List the qualities you would like for him or her to possess. What kind of plan will help to achieve this?
4. Think through again the “checklist for my child’s future” Tim develops on pages 34-35, this time with your child in mind. Would you add other areas? If so, what? What areas will you especially have to concentrate on?

Session 1

Bringing It Home

1. Choose an item from the “checklist for my child’s future” on pages 34-35 for each of your children. What will you do to work on that area with your child this week?
2. Do you need to have a heart to heart with your children and take responsibility for your misplaced priorities? If so, ask God to prepare their hearts to receive your heartfelt apology. Make sure they know that you are going to be working on your own life as you devote your time and energy to theirs.
3. What sound bite would you want your kids to give USA Today if they were interviewed about you as their parent? What can you do this week to make that a reality?
4. What is one principle you learned from these chapters that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What principles of “deliberate” living and parenting do you see in this passage? List them. What is the promised result of such living?
2. Read Ephesians 6:4. What principles of deliberate parenting are reflected in this passage? How are these principles built into your own plan for parenting?
3. Read Ephesians 5:15-16. What does this verse tell us about living deliberately? How does the culture in which we live impact this principle?
4. Additional Scripture:
Luke 12: 16-34; Matt. 6:19-21; I Peter 5: 2-3

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Define “faith.” What is it? In what do you place it? How do you get it? How do you strengthen it?
2. Is “faith” a big part of your life? Why or why not? Would a co-worker agree with your self-assessment?
3. Tim lists three major problems we all face:
 - A. We are naturally enemies of God.
 - B. We are naturally slaves to sin.
 - C. We all eventually die.How have you responded to all three of these problems? What is your “solution” to them?
4. Is your faith easy for you to express or is it tough for you? Explain your answer.
5. Is your faith appealing to others or is it a turnoff? Explain your answer.

Taking it Deeper

1. How deliberate is your child-rearing? Are you “parenting on purpose”? Explain your answer.
2. Tim writes of the necessity to anticipate needs in the life of your child (see page 34). What needs does your own child have? List them.
3. What sort of adult do you want your child to become? List the qualities you would like for him or her to possess. What kind of plan will help to achieve this?
4. Think through again the “checklist for my child’s future” Tim develops on pages 34-35, this time with your child in mind. Would you add other areas? If so, what? What areas will you especially have to concentrate on?

Session 2

The Character Trait of *Faith*

(chapters 3 & 4)

Bringing It Home

1. Are you walking the talk when it comes to living out your own faith? What can you do to make sure your children see an authentic faith in you?
2. How are you doing at trusting God when it comes to your child's salvation? Commit to praying for their spiritual journey every day.
3. Choose one suggestion from the "Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Faith" and do it this week.
4. What is one principle you learned from these chapters that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Hebrews 11:1. How is faith defined here? How would you explain this to a "non-religious" person?
2. Read Ephesians 5:8-9. What does this verse say about faith? Have you acted on the truth it proclaims? Explain your answer.
3. Read Hebrews 11:6. How important is our faith to God? What two things are necessary for us to draw close to God, according to this verse?
4. Read Job 19:25-27. How does this passage relate to faith? In what way does this passage give a tremendous hope for the future and a strong foundation for living right now?
5. Additional Scripture:
John 3:16; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:8

Session 3

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Tim writes that “integrity is what we are when we are hidden from the gaze of others.” What does he mean by this?
2. Think of the person you most admire for his or her integrity. What gives you this impression of the person?
3. Would others say that you are a person of integrity? Why or why not?
4. Tim writes that integrity can be broken down into three parts:
 - A. Truth
 - B. Convictions
 - C. ReputationIf you had to list three items under each category which characterize your own life, what items would you name?

Taking it Deeper

1. Does your child understand what integrity is? What related terms might he or she use to describe it?
2. As you observe your child, would you say integrity is a strong or a weak spot? What plan do you have for building integrity into your child?
3. What are the core truths around which your child’s life is being built? What are his or her most firm convictions? What sort of reputation is he or she building?

Session 3

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Faith” that you focused on this past week?
2. If you were to make a list of convictions worth dying for, what would be on your list? How are you doing at living out those convictions in front of your kids?
3. Why not read the poem, “If”, to your family at dinner time and discuss its application for each of you.
4. Choose one suggestion from the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Integrity” and do it this week.
5. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Psalm 101:2-4. What does this passage have to say about integrity? Which part of the passage speaks to you most loudly? Why?
2. Read Proverbs 10:9. What are the benefits of integrity outlined in this verse? What are the dangers of living without it?
3. Read 1 Chronicles 29:17. Why do you suppose Solomon in this verse singles out integrity for special mention? Does this say anything to you about your own parenting?
4. Additional Scripture:
Proverbs 20:7; John 16:13; John 8:32; Exodus 23:1-2

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Tim defines poise as a “keen sense of the appropriate.” What does this mean to you?
2. Think of a recent example in which poise was required and you fell a little short. Did your children witness the incident? If not, did they hear about it? How might you have used the event to teach them about poise?
3. Tim lists three areas in which poise is especially required:
 - A. In the emotions. 1 2 3 4 5
 - B. In social settings. 1 2 3 4 5
 - C. In sexuality. 1 2 3 4 5How would you rate your own poise in each of these areas (1=least, 5=most)? Does your rating suggest you need to take action in any area? If so, what kind of action?

Taking it Deeper

1. Does your child know what is “appropriate” in sensitive situations? Explain your answer.
2. Think of an example in which poise was required and your child either excelled or fell a little short. Did you use that event as an opportunity to teach something about poise? If so, how? If not, why not?
3. How are you teaching your child about poise in the area of emotions? In social settings? In sexuality? If you feel your child needs special attention in any of these areas, what is your plan to address this need?

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Integrity” that you focused on this past week?
2. At a dinner time discussion, tell your children about a time that “gentle strength” came in handy. Ask them to think of some of the extremes in their own lives and come up with a way that poise can help keep balance in these areas.
3. Choose one suggestion from the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Poise” and do it this week.
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Titus 2:6-8. What does this passage have to say about poise? What is your part in transferring this trait to your children?
2. Read 1 Peter 1:13-15. How would this passage apply to poise in the area of the emotions? In social settings? In sexuality?
3. Read 1 Timothy 2:8-10. What specifics does this passage give about poise in a church setting? How are these specifics applicable to life in general?
4. Additional Scripture:
Eccl. 7:16-18; Philippians 4:11-13; II Timothy 3:16-17

Session 5

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Tim writes that most parents cringe when the topic turns to disciplines. Why do you think this is true? How do you feel about the topic? Explain your answer.
2. Tim suggests that there is “no freedom without discipline.” What does he mean? Do you agree with him? Why or why not?
3. Does a lack of discipline in your life hamper your effectiveness in parenting? If so, in what areas is this lack most acute? What can you do to address the problem?
4. If you were to ask your child if you were a disciplined person, what would he or she say?
5. Tim lists three key areas in developing a life of discipline:
 - A. Delayed gratification. 1 2 3 4 5
 - B. Advanced decision-making. 1 2 3 4 5
 - C. A focused goal. 1 2 3 4 5How would you rate your own poise in each of these areas (1=least, 5=most)? What, if anything, does this rating suggest you need to do?

Taking it Deeper

1. What plan do you have for building discipline into your child’s life? Describe its elements.
2. What responsibilities have you given your child around the house? How firm are you in insisting that these responsibilities are carried out?
3. Do you and your spouse agree on how you will discipline your child? Verbalize to each other what your disciplinary plan of action is.
4. Is your child learning discipline through delayed gratification? Through advanced decision-making? Through a focused goal? Describe what is happening with your child in each of these areas.

Session 5

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Poise” that you focused on this past week?
2. Demonstrate a skill or ability you have cultivated over the years to your children. (i.e. musical, athletic, intellectual ability, healthy lifestyle, attitude adjustment) Give them a little history on your path to this accomplishment, as you emphasize the end result of discipline.
3. Choose one suggestion from the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Discipline” and do it this week.
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. What principles of discipline are highlighted in this passage? How are you implementing them in your own parenting?
2. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. According to this passage, what is the key to maintaining a life of discipline (v. 2)? What is the frequent result if we fail to heed the passage’s warning (v. 3)?
3. Read Hebrews 12:5-11. According to verse 6, whom does the Lord Himself discipline? What does this suggest about your own child? What does discipline produce, according to verse 11? When does it produce this? How is this significant?
4. Additional Scripture:
Proverbs 13:24; Philippians 3:12-14; II Timothy 4:7-8

Session 6

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Is “endurance” a hard thing for you? Why or why not?
2. Tim writes that “discipline gets people going. Endurance enables them to go the distance.” What is it about parenting that especially calls for endurance? Have you ever been tempted to quit? Explain your answer.
3. Tim mentions several obstacles that make endurance difficult. What are some obstacles in your own experience?
4. Tim lists five factors that enable us to endure:
 - A. Set goals.
 - B. Break goals into manageable moments.
 - C. Make trials your friend.
 - D. Crash through quitting points.
 - E. Surround yourself with conquerors, not quitters.Rank these factors in order of difficulty for you, beginning with the easiest and ending with the hardest. What can you do to “even out” your ranking?

Taking it Deeper

1. Observe your child. Does he or she have difficulty finishing things? Is quitting a constant temptation? How do you as a parent respond to challenges in this area?
2. What obstacles lie in the path of your child toward finishing certain established goals? How can you help your child break through these obstacles?
3. Observe your child’s friends. Do these youngsters seem to look more like “conquerors” or “quitters”? What can you do to nudge your child toward healthy friendships?
4. How do you celebrate your child’s victories in the area of endurance? How do you recognize his or her successes and/or earnest attempts at enduring to the end? What positive motivation do you employ to encourage a lifestyle of perseverance?

Session 6

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Discipline” that you focused on this past week?
2. Tell your children about a time in your life when it was hard to hang in there. You may or may not have endured. Tell them how you feel about it now.
3. Choose one suggestion from the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Endurance” and do it this week.
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read James 1:2-4. What does this passage say about endurance? What does perseverance accomplish (v. 4)? Name one way perseverance is developed (vv. 2-3).
2. Read 2 Timothy 2:3-10,12. What examples does Paul use in this passage to illustrate endurance? How do these illustrations relate to your job as a parent? What is the result of such endurance, according to verse 12?
3. Read Hebrews 10:35-38. What is the danger that opposition presents? In eternal matters, what is the reward for perseverance? How is daily life a training ground for these matters?
4. Additional Scripture:
Romans 8:28; Romans 8: 37-39; Isaiah 40:30-31; I Cor. 15:58; James

Session 7

Getting the Discussion Going

1. What effect does a lack of courage have on every other character trait mentioned so far?
2. Discuss Lord Lawrence's epitaph: "He feared man so little, because he feared God so much." What does this mean to you? Would this epitaph be fitting on your own tombstone? Why or why not?
3. Tim lists four areas in which we must demonstrate courage:
A. Emotional courage. C. Moral courage.
B. Relational courage. D. Spiritual courage.
Which of these areas is currently presenting the biggest challenge for you? How could you use this challenge to help your child grow more courageous?
4. If your epitaph were to be written today, what would it say about your own courage? If the words on such an epitaph are distasteful to you, what action must you take now to change them?

Taking it Deeper

1. Who are your child's heroes? What are they teaching him or her about courage? How can you bring courageous acts to your child's attention?
2. If your child is old enough, ask him or her about Lord Lawrence's epitaph. What does it mean? What does it suggest to your child? Is the sentiment behind the epitaph something to be emulated? If so, ask your child what he or she could do right now to start building such a life.
3. Evaluate your child in the areas of emotional courage; relational courage; moral courage; spiritual courage. What do you see? What do you want to see? How can you move from what you see to what you want to see?
4. Relate the story of General Von Zieten (pages 144-145) to your child. Then ask questions such as, "What do you think of what the general did? What would you have done? How do you think the emperor treated Von Zieten afterwards?"

Session 7

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Endurance” that you focused on this past week?
2. Around the dinner table, tell your kids about a time in your life when you had to have courage. Tell them about your fears and the end result of facing those fears.
3. Choose one suggestion from the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Courage” and do it this week.
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Isaiah 51:12-16. What reason does this passage give for us to be courageous? (Compare also Isaiah 8:12-13 and Psalm 118:6.)
2. Read Philippians 1:19-20. How did Paul expect to find courage for the challenges which confronted him? How can he be an example for you?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 16:13-14. In what way are these short commands linked? What holds them together? What does this suggest for your own parenting?
4. Additional Scripture:
Proverbs 28:1; II Timothy 1:7; Romans 1:16; Joshua 1:7

Getting the Discussion Going

1. What kinds of dilemmas force you to focus on your needs as well as draw conclusions about your life?
2. Do you use the dilemmas in your life to teach your kids how to succeed in life? How can you better use these dilemmas?
3. Do you think God puts you through some “designed dilemmas” to help you grow in Christ? If so, give some possible examples. If not, explain why not.

Taking it Deeper

1. Tim says a designed dilemma creates “a situation or an environment in which children are forced to focus on their needs as well as draw conclusions about their lives.” Try to come up with three such dilemmas appropriate to your own child.
2. What areas of your child’s character would be good candidates for a designed dilemma? List them.
3. Not all children will respond equally to designed dilemmas. Tim’s “lesson” with Cody in the mall, for example, might be too traumatic for some children. What kinds of dilemmas are most likely to be effective with your child? Why?
4. The “debriefing period” is critical to the success of any designed dilemma. For the three dilemmas you created in question 1 above, write out at least five good “debriefing” questions for your child which will make clear the lesson of the dilemma.

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Ways to Teach Your Child Courage” that you focused on this past week?
2. Let your kids tell you about a time when they learned something “the hard way”. Ask them if they think they would have learned it as well from a book or teacher or even from your advice.
3. Choose one suggestion from the “Ten Designed Dilemmas That Develop Character” and do it this week.
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Luke 8:22-25. What was this “dilemma” designed to teach? Describe Jesus’ “debriefing.” Was it effective?
2. Read Luke 9:1-10. How did this “designed dilemma” differ from the one in Luke 8? What was the lesson here?
3. Read Mark 8:1-9; 14-21. What was the “designed dilemma” in this passage? Describe the “debriefing.” What was Jesus trying to teach here?
4. Additional Scripture:
James 1: 2-5; I Peter 1: 6-7; Romans 5:3-5; II Cor. 9-8

Getting the Discussion Going

1. What legacy did your parent's marriage leave to you? Has that legacy affected your own marriage? If so, how?
2. What legacy do you want your marriage to leave with your children? Describe it in one or two paragraphs.
3. If you were to objectively evaluate the legacy your marriage is leaving with your kids right now, what would it be? If this is different from what you described in question 2 above, what changes do you have to make?
4. To what extent does your marriage reflect the habits of faith; integrity; poise; discipline; endurance; and courage? Analyze each trait and discuss your evaluation.

Taking it Deeper

1. How do you think your child will remember your marriage? What outstanding memories will your child possess of your relationship with your spouse?
2. Do you think your child would like to emulate your marriage, or would she or he want something very different? Explain your answer.
3. If your child were to pick one word to describe your relationship with your spouse, what do you think that word would be?

Session 9

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the one suggestion of the “Ten Designed Dilemmas That Develop Character” that you focused on this past week?
2. Without getting too mushy, tell your kids how you and your spouse met and fell in love. Assure them that although things aren’t always smooth, you are so glad you are married to him or her and will be forever.
3. If the previous question is inappropriate for your situation, tell your kids how you are praying for them and their future spouse and your hopes for their happy marriage.
4. Choose two suggestions from the “Twenty One Ways to Leave a Legacy Through Your Marriage” and do them this week.
5. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Hebrews 12:12-15. What areas of the marriage legacy are this passage designed to protect?
2. Read Colossians 3:18-19. What instructions for developing a godly marriage legacy are given in this passage?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-6; 10-16. What guidelines for developing a godly marriage legacy are outlined in this passage?
4. Additional Scripture:
Ephesians 5:22-33; Ephesians 4: 29-32; I Cor. 13: 4-8a, 13

Session 10

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Reflect over the past week. How much time did you spend deliberately interacting with your child? How about two weeks ago? How much time did you devote to your child this month?
2. Do you think your child sees himself or herself as a blessing or as an inconvenience? Explain your answer.
3. Every parent occasionally grows weary of their child's inappropriate behavior, but on average, do you truly enjoy spending time with your child, or are you glad to get away?
4. If you had to either cut your income by a third to spend more time with your child, or see your child develop some lasting emotional problems, what would you choose? Would this be an easy choice? Explain your answer.

Taking it Deeper

1. Do you see any characteristics of "emotional latchkey kids" in your child's friends? If so, what are they?
2. Do you believe your child would be more in danger of "unhealthy dependence" or "unhealthy independence"? Explain your answer.
3. If asked, do you think your child would like to spend more time with you? If so, what kind of activities with you would she or he choose?

Session 10

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do on the two suggestions of the “Twenty One Ways to Leave a Legacy Through Your Marriage” that you focused on this past week?
2. Take a serious look at your schedule. What can you eliminate that would give you (1) time for a special activity or outing with your family and (2) more time on a regular basis to enjoy the day to day of parenting.
3. What are you going to do with that time when you free it up? How are you going to make this freer schedule the rule more than the exception?
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Colossians 3:21. In what way are “emotional latchkey children” often “embittered” against their parents? How could this be avoided?
2. Read 2 Timothy 1:4-5. What legacy did Lois and Eunice leave to Timothy? Do you think this would have been possible without spending significant portions of time with him? Explain your answer.
3. Read again Deuteronomy 6:4-9. Are any of these instructions possible to carry out without prodigious amounts of time? What does this imply about Christians raising “emotional latchkey children”?
4. Additional Scripture:
I Timothy 4:12; I Thessalonians 5:14; Philipians 2: 3-4

Session 11

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Tim lists three primary “misguided legacies” that parents sometimes leave to their children:
A. Misguided security. B. Misguided significance.
C. Misguided strength.
Which of these areas gives you the least trouble? Which one gives you the greatest struggle? Why?
2. Did your own parents leave you with any of the “misguided legacies” mentioned in 1 above? If so, which one(s)? Has this affected your own parenting? If so, how?
3. In your own words, define the authentic counterpart to each of the “misguided” legacies mentioned above. In other words, what is true security? What is true significance? What is true strength?
4. Imagine a scene years in the future where you are about to witness your own funeral. Your child is about to deliver the eulogy. Based on your parenting thus far, what will he or she say?

Taking it Deeper

1. Is your child most likely to struggle with misguided security, significance, or strength? How does this struggle manifest itself? What can you do to help your child in this area?
2. Does your child feel secure? Explain your answer.
3. Does your child feel significant? Explain your answer.
4. Does your child feel strong and competent? Explain your answer.

Session 11

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do in your efforts to make time for a special activity with your family? How about freeing up some of your time for them on a more regular basis?
2. If you could write your own eulogy, what would it say? What can you do this week to make your life line up with your eulogy?
3. When it comes to those three important opportunities in your life, faith, family and friends, what is one thing you can do this week to make an eternal deposit in them?
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Romans 8:31-39. According to these verses, where does true security come from?
2. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. According to these verses, where does true significance come from?
3. Read Isaiah 40:28-31; 41:10. According to these verses, where does true strength come from?
4. Additional Scripture:
Luke 16:19-31; Luke 12: 16-21; Luke 12: 25-34

Getting the Discussion Going

1. Tim lists 11 “counterfeit” legacies:
A. Anger. B. Fear.
C. Compromise. D. Laziness.
E. Legalism. F. Intimidation.
G. Labels. H. Shadows.
I. Perfectionism. J. Withdrawal.
K. Unfinished legacy.
Discuss each of these counterfeit legacies. Which ones scare you the most? Why?
2. Did your own childhood suffer from any of these counterfeit legacies? If so, which one(s)?
3. Are any of the counterfeit legacies listed above a threat to your own family? If so, which one(s)? What can you do now to ensure that they will not take root in your children?

Taking it Deeper

1. Do you see any of the counterfeit legacies listed above affecting your child? In what way? What is your plan to address the problem?
2. Are there any other counterfeit legacies, not listed above, that might be afflicting your child? If so, what are they? What are you going to do about them?

Session 12

Bringing It Home

1. How did you do this week on making deposits into those very important priorities: faith, family and friends?
2. Of the 11 counterfeit legacies listed above, which of the six character traits (faith, integrity, poise, discipline, endurance and courage) counteracts each one? What are you doing to build those character traits into your life to avoid these counterfeit legacies?
3. What are you doing to build those character traits into your child's life to help them avoid these counterfeit legacies? What else could you be doing?
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Galatians 5:19-21. What counterfeit legacies are listed in this passage? Are there any here which especially threaten you and your family?
2. Read Ephesians 5: 3-7. What counterfeit legacies are listed in this passage? Are there any here which especially threaten you and your family?
3. Read Philippians 4:8-9. What godly legacies would be created by following the command detailed in this passage? How do you make this practical in your family life?
4. Additional Scripture:
Galatians 5: 22-25; I Peter 2: 11-17; James 2: 18-20

Session 13

Getting the Discussion Going

1. It is crucial to remember that God specializes in restoring damaged legacies! But before He can do so, we must be honest with Him and with ourselves. So the first question you must answer is this: Do you need God to restore your own legacy? If the answer is yes, begin the process by committing it to the Lord.

2. Tim lists several steps toward restoring your legacy:
 - A. Take action to minimize past damage.
 - B. Reconcile the past with the present.
 - C. Take action to minimize damage in the future.If you need to restore a damaged legacy, which of the three listed areas are most crucial for you to address first? What is your plan for doing so?

Taking it Deeper

1. Tim lists several resources which can help you to restore your legacy, including:

A. Mentors.	B. Small Groups.
C. Marriage Conferences.	D. Weekly dates with your spouse.
E. Monthly dates with your kids.	F. Prayer.

Which of the resources above are available to you? Which have you taken advantage of? Is there any reason why you couldn't take advantage of all of them?

2. Restoring your legacy is never easy, but it is worth it. One critical question you must ask yourself is this: "How badly do I want to restore a legacy of love to my children?" How much are you willing to do to restore such a legacy?

Session 13

Bringing It Home

1. Do you have anything that you can share about an instance of building any of the six character traits into your kids this week? Did you have a character building experience yourself this week?
2. Is there some hurt or disappointment in the past that is holding your present life and future hostage? Are you willing to do what Tim suggests and forgive the responsible party even if it is just to give you the freedom to move on with your life? How will you do this and when?
3. Choose one of the resources for restoring a legacy from #2 in “Getting the Discussion Going” and commit to making it happen. How are you going to do this?
4. What is one principle you learned from this chapter that can help you raise kids who turn out right?
5. Now that you are at the end of the study, what are two life changes that you have made that will ensure that you can raise kids who turn out right?

Looking at Scripture

1. Read Genesis 41:50-52; 50:15-21. What did Joseph do to restore his damaged legacy? What can you do to follow his example?
2. Read Judges 11:1-33. How did Jephthah respond to those who damaged his legacy? In what way might he be a good example for you?
3. Read 2 Kings 21-22. How did King Josiah respond to his ungodly heritage? What encouragement can this be to you?
4. Additional Scripture:
Galatians 6:7-9; Ephesians 4:32; Hebrews 10:30

Other Resources

If you enjoyed this book and study, please tell a friend and your pastor. Thank You.

We would love to continue to equip you and your family.

- Please visit us at familymatters.net for many helpful family tools.
- Go to Dinner Dialogue at www.dinnerdialogue.com for great dinner time discussion topics.
- Lead a group of your friends through this Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right Enhanced Study Guide.
- Review this material in a fun format, the Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right DVD Study. This video series provides a strategy for positive parenting goals, while allowing for your personal parenting style. There are steps you can take to prepare your children for the challenges ahead, but you will need an effective game plan. An excellent tool for individuals as well as small groups and Sunday school classes. For more information, go to www.familymatters.net/resources.asp
- We would love to hear from you about the impact this book and study has had on you and your family. Email us at family@familymatters.net

God Bless You As You Raise Kids Who Turn Out Right!