

LEADER'S GUIDE

GRACE BASED parenting[®]

VIDEO SERIES



Creating an Atmosphere of Grace

DR. TIM KIMMEL

GRACE BASED parenting[®]

VIDEO SERIES
Creating an Atmosphere of Grace

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Grace Based Parenting Video Series: Creating an Atmosphere of Grace
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This leader's guide is to be used in conjunction with the *Grace Based Parenting Video Series: Creating an Atmosphere of Grace* and is not meant to be a stand alone piece.

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Grace Based Parenting Leader's Guide

Welcome

We are delighted that you are leading this video study. You are going to have the opportunity to lead a study that will have a direct and profound effect on many generations to come. It will also have a life-changing effect on the parents who study along with you.

This Leader's Guide is designed to help you easily succeed in your role. You will not only succeed, but you will find your own life affected as well. During this study, parents are going to laugh, cry, and make commitments to a whole new standard of raising their families.

We want to orient you to the material you will be using and help you use this study in such a way that everyone participating will be able to raise their stock value as a parent and as an individual. This study is not just about handling the everyday challenges of parenting, it's about changing the way you think as a parent. We want to equip parents to be the best they can be. Thanks for your willingness to be a part of this transformational study.

Getting Started

The first step is to get the word out about this great study. Get parents excited by talking about the Grace Based Parenting class/group you are going to start. Announce the class publically. Hand out flyers, add the class to your church bulletin and website, and show the promotional video. Print materials are available online at Leaders.GraceBasedParenting.com. Below is a suggested timeline to use as you promote and prepare for your class/group.

Six Weeks Out

- Read this entire leaders guide.
- Become familiar with the GraceBasedParenting.com website.

Four Weeks Out

- Begin publicity and class sign-ups.
- Recruit small-group discussion leaders if it appears that you will have more than 10-12 people participating in the study. Use these leaders to facilitate discussion groups of 8-10 people.

Two Weeks Out

- If applicable, hold a discussion group leaders' meeting. Watch the first session and review the discussion questions at the end of each session.
- Final publicity and sign-ups.
- Make reminder calls or emails about the first meeting.
- Make plans to have a fun, inviting meeting environment. Consider having snacks, comfortable seats and greeters to make everyone feel welcome.

Keys to Success

1. Determine a Format

This video study is meant to be flexible and can be used in a variety of ways such as a:

- Small Group Study
- Individual or Couples Study
- Church Sunday School Study
- Retreat or Evening Church Study

Your format will determine how much time you can devote to discussion. You may have to choose some of the questions to discuss in your group and encourage them to do the rest at home. The most important questions when it comes to applying the new principles to their own lives will be found in the *Bringing It Home* section. **Make sure everyone fills in an answer to the last question of the *Bringing It Home* section before you close your time.**

We have designed the video portion of the study to be 15-20 minutes in length, with the remaining time to be used for discussion. This study is all about creating a Grace Based Parenting philosophy and making grace the DNA of your family. In order to do that, one must not only learn this model, but also apply it. That is why **discussion** is the primary focus of this study. Through discussion, the individuals learn how to apply these principles and create change within their families.

2. Prior to each meeting

- Review the session outline and watch the session on the DVD. If you experience any problems with your DVD, please contact Family Matters immediately. If the DVD needs to be replaced, you can show another lesson until you receive your replacement.
- Pray for wisdom and understanding as you lead. Also pray that your participants will be receptive, empowered and encouraged by the lesson and sharing.
- Get your room ready by arranging chairs for watching the DVD and by making sure all your audio/visual equipment works.
- Make a commitment to start and stop your group on time.
- Begin reinforcing the benefits of going through the entire video study at the first meeting. Some people will not be able to make all the classes, but most will try if there is accountability within the group.

3. How to use this Study

This video is meant to be used in conjunction with the participant workbook. Each individual should have their own personal workbook in order to fill in the blanks, take notes, and answer the discussion questions.

Each session has fill-in-the-blanks so that participants can easily follow along with the concepts that are being presented and discussion questions at the end of each session. If a person misses a fill-in-the-blank, the answers are in the back of each workbook.

4. Small Group Techniques

- Promote interaction! Your role is to facilitate conversation; allow participants to hold each another accountable.
- Give everyone a chance to speak; don't allow the talkers to dominate the conversation. Encourage those who are quiet to participate by directly asking them a question.
- Set the pace by being honest and transparent yourself.
- Use humor and share personal stories.
- Don't be afraid of silence. Sometimes you have to wait for a response, especially when the subject matter is difficult.
- Allow participants to cry if they are hurting. Show your group that you genuinely care.
- Be excited about accomplishments! Applaud transformation.

5. Keys to An Effective Study

Group Commitments That Insure Success (you might want to read these at the first meeting):

- Courtesy – Each participant should commit to arriving to each session on time.
- Acceptance – Each participant should affirm the other participants' verbal contributions.
- Confidentiality – Each participant should be careful to not talk about personal issues shared by fellow participants outside the context of this study.
- Honesty – Each participant should be forthright and truthful when they speak.

- Respect – Each participant should be careful not to stand in judgment, give quick advice, or criticize his or her fellow participants. The goal is to make the group a safe place for participants to talk openly about their roles and about their children.

Suggested Schedule

Below is a suggested time schedule to complete each session in a 60 minute time frame. If you have more time, then we suggest you use it in the ***Bringing it Home*** section.

The video itself is laid out in the following format:

1. Introduction (1 – 2 minutes) – Darcy Kimmel introduces the topic being addressed during this session and gives an overview.
2. Teaching (approx. 15-20 minutes) – Tim Kimmel presents the topic for this session. Each session, after session 1, matches corresponding chapters in the book, ***Grace Based Parenting***. Though not required, we highly recommend that the leader and participants read the chapters for a richer and fuller understanding of the principles discussed.
3. Discussion (remainder of time) – ***Making this Yours*** is the key transformational component of the video study. At the end of each session, there are questions in the workbook to get the discussion going on what was presented. These questions are broken up into the following 3 sections:

- Getting it Started -(approx. 10 minutes)– Basic questions aimed at getting people comfortable and talking.
- Taking it Deeper – (approx. 10 minutes) These questions and scriptural passages help solidify the concepts presented by Dr. Kimmel in the video.
- Bringing it Home – (approx. 15 minutes) These questions help the participants think about how these principles can be applied in their own lives and families.

At the end of each session, there is a prayer for your group with which you or another participant can close. This is a time when you ask God for His help in taking what you've learned as a group and turning it into individual benefit. If time permits, this is a good spot to share special prayer needs focused on the children and grandchildren of the participants. It might be tempting to broaden the scope of these requests, but in consideration of the time, those requests should be addressed at another time.

Session Overviews

Session 1: The Big Picture of Grace Based Parenting

- Introduction to the grace-based parenting model and the four parts or dimensions that make up this grace-based plan for parenting.
- Introduction to the first two parts or dimensions of the grace-based parenting plan that this study covers and are developed in the book, ***Grace Based Parenting***.
- Enjoy learning about raising your kids the way God raises His – with grace!

Session 2: Why Well-Meaning Parenting Falls Short

- How we can easily get off track in our parenting role.
- Why good intentions aren't enough when it comes to fulfilling our responsibility of parenting and grandparenting.
- An introduction to a refreshing alternative to the many parenting tactics our culture offers us.

Session 3: The Truth Behind Grace

- The importance of balance in our role as a parent.
- Reconciling two concepts that run throughout the scriptures when it comes to our responsibilities as a parent.
- How to stay away from two extremes that can undermine our ability to love our kids the way God loves His-with grace.

Session 4: A Secure Love

- Unpacking the three inner needs with which every child is born.
- How we sometimes unwittingly undermine our ability to meet this first need and three practical ways to meet this need in our child.

Session 5: A Significant Purpose

- A reminder that God made us with a driving desire to use our lives to make a difference.
- A parent's privilege to shepherd a child's heart toward a significant purpose.
- Four levels of purpose that we want to nurture in our child's heart and practical ways to achieve them

Session 6: A Strong Hope

- The importance of transferring a strong hope to the heart of our children.
- The role protection and preparation play in developing a strong hope.

Session 7: The Freedom To Be Different

- A reminder that God is a God of variety and loves to make us all differently.
- How a grace-based home not only has room for those differences but actually celebrates them.

Session 8: The Freedom To Be Vulnerable

- The fragility of childhood and how our home can be a safe place to process the things that go along with growing up.
- How to extend God's grace to a needy heart by giving our children the freedom to be vulnerable.

Session 9: The Freedom To Be Candid

- The misconception of "getting along."
- How the freedom to be candid bathes conflict with grace and promises a better outcome.
- How to encourage a loving honesty that frees young hearts to forgive and move on.

Session 10: The Freedom To Make Mistakes

- Realizing that mistakes are a part of life.
- How to process mistakes to learn from them rather than going undercover and making the same mistakes again.
- How grace keeps the lines of communication open and allows parents to help their children through the hard lessons of childhood.

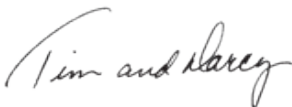
Final Thoughts

You did it! You have raised the stock value of your family and the families of the participants by going through this study. You have formed some great relationships during this ten session study and we encourage you to continue these relationships. Here are a few suggestions:

- Do another DVD study together.
 - Grace Based Parenting: Building Character*
 - Grace Based Parenting: True Greatness*
 - The Hurried Family*
 - Extreme Grandparenting*
- Do a book study together.
 - Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right*
 - Raising Kids for True Greatness*
 - Little House on the Freeway*
- Encourage the participants to lead another group of parents and grandparents through this study.
- Look into bringing a **Raising Truly Great Kids Conference** to your area. Go to raisingtrulygreatkids.com for more information.
- Have a Grace Based Parenting reunion in six months.
- Keep up with the prayer needs of each other via email.

Thank you for being used by God in the lives of others. May God richly bless you.

Because Every Family Matters,



Tim and Darcy Kimmel

