BEING A FAITHFUL FATHER AND SHEPHERDING YOUR FAMILY WELL.

TRIAN: FOCUS ON THE HEART

**TEACHING NOTES:** 

## WEEK 3 TO DOs:

- Homework for Week 4
- Lead your family in a devotional time.

  (For ideas to get you started, check out watermark.org/blog for devotional activities)

WEEK THREE: TRAIN

# TEACHING TRUTH

Equipping Your Kids Through the Years

AGE OF KIDS	TRUTH TO BE TAUGHT
1-5 YEARS	<ul> <li>God created me.</li> <li>God loves me, and He loves you too.</li> <li>The Bible is absolutely true.</li> <li>God is good. God is powerful. God is always in control.</li> <li>Jesus wants to be my friend forever.</li> </ul>
K-5TH GRADE	<ul> <li>God sent His son to pay the price for the world's sins, and promises eternal life for those who believe in Him.</li> <li>The Bible is written by God through His followers, and wisdom and life change come from living by its truths.</li> <li>God can be trusted with everything no matter what, because He is who He says He is.</li> <li>Christ followers know their identity is in Him, and are therefore others-focused.</li> <li>Choose the right decision and discern who to go to for help.</li> </ul>
6TH-12TH GRADE	<ul> <li>Find security and confidence in your identity.</li> <li>Learn to control your tongue.</li> <li>Understand, own, defend, and share your faith.</li> <li>Develop healthy friendships.</li> <li>Define healthy relationships with the opposite sex.</li> <li>Become influential in the lives of others.</li> <li>Face the world and make wise choices.</li> </ul>

# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1. What did you learn from your family surveys? Were you encouraged? Discouraged? Did you get any insightful thoughts from your kids?
- 2. Share some of the insights you noticed as you studied Proverbs 2. What truth most moved your heart to action? What is one action you want to take?
- 3. As you studied about the heart that leads to the fear of the Lord (all the "ifs" leading up to Proverbs 2:5), what were your thoughts about how you're pursuing the Lord in your own heart?
  - a. If your wife were here, what would she say about how passionately you are pursuing God?
  - b. If your kids were here, what would they say about how passionately you are pursuing God?
  - c. What are some adjustments you think would help you to pursue God more passionately?
- 4. Proverbs 2 warns against two major pitfalls: friends that lead you away from God and seductive women.
  - a. How have you done historically in choosing godly friends? How are you doing now?
  - b. How have you done historically with rejecting temptation from seductive women? (emotional affairs, crushes, pornography, inappropriate TV, lingering looks, etc.)

## **HOMEWORK FOR WEEK 4**

1. Train up a child in the way he should go, and in the end he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

a. Is this a promise or a principle? What is the difference?

b. How do you train your child so he will not depart from the way he should go? (remember Deuteronomy 6:1-9) Why? What? How? When?

2. A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish son is a grief to his mother. Proverbs 10:1 (See also Proverbs 15:20, 17:25, 19:13)

a. What do these proverbs say about how a foolish child affects the household?

b. How does a wise child affect his/her parents?

3. The Discipline Proverbs - Look up and read each verse below

### Parent and Child Responses to Discipline

Proverbs 12:1

Proverbs 13:1

Proverbs 13:18

Proverbs 15:5

Proverbs 15:32

Proverbs 19:20

Proverbs 19:27

Proverbs 29:1

#### Discipline is Loving

Proverbs 15:10

Proverbs 19:18

#### Physical Discipline

Proverbs 12:6

Proverbs 13:24

Proverbs 22:15

Proverbs 29:15

Proverbs 29:17

a. What do these proverbs tell you about the importance of discipline?

b. How should these truths in Proverbs guide the discipline of your kids?

c. What is the most difficult part of disciplining your kids for you and your spouse?

d. How do you handle the appropriate correction of friends, bosses, and others in authority over you?

e. What is your response to the discipline of the Lord in your life?

f. What are some potential abuses that can come from physical discipline? How can you avoid those traps?