

IT'S JUST A PHASE

Week 1 | It's Just a Phase | Discussion Guide

Scripture: Mark 9:36-37; Matthew 19:13-15

Breaking the Ice (you pick any or all):

Easy | What was your favorite movie as a kid?

Medium | What is the best thing about you?

Difficult | If you could change anything about the way you were raised, what would it be?

Teaching Summary Video:

Click [HERE](#) or on the video below to catch this week's message summary.



Group Discussion:

In the message Pastor Tim talks about the picture of the perfect family. Describe your vision of the "perfect" family.

DISCUSS: Where did your idea of family come from? How does your family measure up to that vision you have?

DISCUSS: How do you think God feels about the imperfections of your family?

DISCUSS: What 2 or 3 feeling words bubble up for you knowing that God loves your family more than you do and He wants to write a better story than you can imagine?

phase | fāz | a time frame in a person's life when you can leverage unique opportunities to influence their future

PHASE	A CHILD'S INNER QUESTION	A PARENT'S RESPONSE
Preschool	<i>Am I able?</i>	Embrace Their Needs
Elementary	<i>Do I measure up?</i>	Engage Their Interests
Middle School	<i>Who do I like?</i>	Affirm Their Journey
High School & Beyond	<i>Do I believe?</i>	Mobilize Their Potential

DISCUSS: Of all the phases of your childhood, which one was the most memorable for you? Why?

DISCUSS: What do you appreciate about your kid's current phase? What's one thing you wish were different/better?

DISCUSS: Don't over-think it or over-complicate it...What do you need your child to know about God in their phase of life?

Bible (open up God's Word together):

Mark 9v36-37

He took a child, had him stand among them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one little child such as this in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me does not welcome me, but him who sent me.

Jesus says when we welcome...hold...embrace...engage...affirm...mobilize our children, that we are receiving/welcoming God the Father. Our kids, are important because they're the image of God.

DISCUSS: Based on what you read in this passage, how does Jesus feel about your kids? Be honest, do you feel the same way Jesus does? If you had to guess, what percentage of your time is spent pointing out what's wrong with your child versus what's right? How does the way you view God impact how you parent your kids?

Next Steps:

This week we want you to see the bigger story - your kids as made in God's image to be molded into His likeness, and on a mission with His movement.

DISCUSS: How might the way you see your family change if you started to have the perspective of God's bigger story, redeeming and restoring your family for His mission?

Resources:

Looking for more help with the phases your kids are in? Be sure to download the Parent Cue app on your smartphone. Also check out www.justaphase.com and www.theparentcue.org.