

GRACE POINT

It's Just A Phase Part 1: It's Just A Phase

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

1. What was most meaningful, memorable, or challenging to you from the message this week?
2. Tim shared the 4 general phases of kids, and what they need in each phase.
 - Birth-Age 4 - Embrace Their Physical Needs
 - Ages 5-9 - Engage Their Interests
 - Ages 10-13 - Affirm Their Personal Journey
 - Ages 14-18+ - Mobilize Their Potential

As you look at your own kids or the kids around you in your life, where do you see this in action?
3. No matter your stage, or what phase your family is in today, what do you hope they don't miss about God? If you have kids, at the stages they are in, what do you want them to know about God?
4. Read Mark 9:36-37 and Matthew 19:13-15. It's clear in these accounts that the people around Jesus completely missed the value of kids. If you look at how you see your family, what is the percentage of time you spend pointing out the sin (the mistakes) in their life, and what is the percentage of time you spend pointing out the image of God in their lives? What makes that easy or hard, and how can you change that?
5. If God's goal for us and the people in our lives is to understand that they are made in His image, be molded in His likeness, and be a part of His mission, what stage in this process would you say you are at? What about your kids or other members of your family?
6. How does knowing that "100 years from now the only thing that will matter is your child's relationship with God" change the way you parent or how you see your parent(s)?
7. As we look at the stories of families in scripture, we see that God isn't into perfect pictures, but writing better stories. As we start this series on family, what is the #1 story you hope God will write in your family? Share and pray as a group about that request today.

MOVING FORWARD

Take some time to reflect on the phase each of your kids (or your family) are in. How can you leverage that phase to focus on the priorities that matter most in life?

Looking for more help with the phases your kids are in? Be sure to check out www.justaphase.com and www.theparentcue.org.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:1