



## Your Kids Matter

### To the leader:

Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions at the end of the page.

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On Sunday, Pastor Dave continued in our Family Matters by talking about how our kids matter, thus, our parenting. We talked about how love is the foundation for any relationship and is, according to Paul, the most excellent way. Dave talked to us about how we can lay a foundation of love by realizing that it isn't about us (parents) but about them (children). We walked through 1 Corinthians 13 and learned about how all of the characteristics of love lay the foundation for parenting in the way God intended.

*"Most of the time I feel unqualified to be a parent.  
I call these times being awake." -Jim Gaffigan*

- ◆ What are some fears that you have about either being a parent currently or one day in the future?
- ◆ What power is there in parents admitting they don't have all the answers?

### Let's review the points from the message Sunday:

#### 1. Parenting isn't about us

- ◆ What characteristics of love described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 fall under the "it's not about us"?
- ◆ What benefits are there for the child if we, as parents, make our parenting less about us and more about them?
- ◆ What are the consequences of a "self-seeking" approach to parenting?

#### 2. Parenting isn't about others

- ◆ What characteristics of love described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 fall under the "it's not about others"?
- ◆ In what ways have you compared your family to others?
  - Even as kids, what are some ways that you have experienced jealousy toward other families?
- ◆ In what ways have you experienced how comparison kills contentment? How do you best combat feelings of comparison?

#### 3. Parenting is about them

- ◆ What characteristics of love described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 fall under the "it's about them"?
- ◆ In what way do these characteristics create opportunities for your kids to pursue their best?

### Now what?

Here are some of the ways that Pastor Dave encouraged us to live out what we learned:

- ◆ Repent of selfish attitudes and behaviors
  - ◆ Repent of comparison and boasting
  - ◆ Honorably and lovingly pursue your God-given responsibility
- What are some ways that you are going to do the above?

### Three Essential Questions

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*