



LESSON 2: CHILDREN WHO THRIVE

WELCOME

What is a lesson from your childhood that you appreciate, even if you did not like it at the time?

WORSHIP

Read *Psalm 84* together, then invite each person to thank God out loud for one place, person, or moment where they have experienced His presence in a meaningful way.

*****Below are seven discussion questions/prompts. There's no pressure to cover every question. As a Life Group, feel free to choose the questions/prompts that you want to cover and use the rest for personal reflection and deeper study during the week. If you haven't already, watch the video lesson on Shepherd Church's [Life Groups webpage](#).**

WORD

1. In **3 John 1:4**, why do you think walking in the truth brings such deep joy to parents and spiritual mentors?

2. How do the principles in **Proverbs 14:26 and Deuteronomy 6:5–9** help Christians understand what it means to raise children who truly flourish?

3. In a culture that often treats faith as private or optional, how do the ideas from the video lesson challenge Christians regarding the next generation?

4. What do *Psalm 84:10* and *Proverbs 22:6* suggest about why helping children value time with God's people can shape their long-term spiritual direction?

5. Read *Psalm 115:14-15*. How does knowing that God desires to bless future generations shape the way Christians think about their influence on younger people?

6. How do Jesus' words in *Mark 10:13-18* challenge the way people normally think about strength and maturity?

7. How might pride, control, or self-reliance be making it harder for you to approach Jesus with the trust of a child?

WITNESS

Using *Deuteronomy 6:5–9* and *3 John 4* as references, choose one daily moment this week (mealtime, bedtime, a car ride, etc.) and plan how you will intentionally talk about God during that time with a kid, friend, or coworker and share with your Life Group.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DEEPER STUDY FOR THIS WEEK

This section is designed to help you continue growing in your faith throughout the week by reflecting more deeply on what you explored in your Life Group. Hopefully, these prompts and questions will create space for you to listen to God, apply Scripture to your life, and take your next step in following Jesus. Whether you work through them all at once or over a longer period, our hope is that your time with God will draw you closer to Him and strengthen your walk with Jesus. And please, don't rush. Go at your own pace, and invite the Holy Spirit to guide your time.

- Review anything in the WORD section that either was not covered during your Life Group or that you want to take a deeper dive into.
- Memorize *Psalm 84:10* and/or *Proverbs 22:6*.

- Read **Deuteronomy 6** all the way through each day this week in one sitting. You can also download the **YouVersion Bible App** and listen to it.
- Do an in-depth study of **Mark 10:13–18** this week! Read the passage, ask yourself the following questions, and write down your answers:
 - What words stick out to you in this passage and why?
 - What words are repeated in this passage and why?
 - Who are the characters in this passage?
 - What other Bible stories or verses does this passage remind you of?
 - What sins are mentioned or insinuated in the passage that you should avoid?
 - What promises are mentioned or insinuated in the passage that you can claim?
 - What attitudes are mentioned or insinuated in the passage that you should adjust?
 - What challenges are mentioned or insinuated in the passage that you should take?
 - What examples are mentioned or insinuated in the passage that you should follow and/or should not follow?
 - What truths are mentioned or insinuated in the passage that you should believe?
 - What priorities does this passage compel you to affirm or change?
 - What personal motives does this passage prompt you to examine?
 - What personal behavior does this passage either confirm or encourage you to change?
 - What acts of kindness does this passage inspire you to express?
 - How does this passage lead you to praise God?