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**Recommended Reading**

*Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp

*Give them Grace* by Elyse Fitzpatrick & Jessica Thompson

*Gospel-Powered Parenting* by William Farley

*What the Bible Says About Parenting* by John MacArthur

**Course outline:**

Week 1 – God's Purpose for the Family

Week 2 – The Ministry of the Family

Week 3 – Family Worship

**Week 4 – Getting to the Heart of Behavior**

Week 5 – Formative Discipline: Our Words to Their Hearts

Week 6 – What to Do When You Can't Reach the Heart

Week 7 – Corrective Discipline: The Rod of Correction

Week 8 – Boys & Fatherhood

Week 9 – Girls & Motherhood

Week 10 – Panel discussion

Week 11 – Children, Technology & Social Media

Week 12 – Zealous Spiritual Parenting

Week 13 – Lessons Kids (and Adults) Need to Learn: Proverbs

**Core Seminars – Christian Life**  
**Parenthood**  
*Week 4*

**Getting to the Heart of Behavior**

▪ **Introduction**

- **Christianity is inherently familial**
  
- **We want our relationships with our children to image for the world our relationship with God**
  
- **Our goals for our children**
  - **Ages 0-5 – training them to be people under authority**
  - **Ages 6-12 – helping them grow in character**
  
- **How we often instinctively attempt this**
  
- **Why this approach falls short**

- **The importance of the heart**
  - **The heart is the well-spring of behavior; so behavior reveals what we worship.**
    - **Prov. 4:23**
    - **Mark 7:21**
    - **Luke 6:45**
  
  - **Our parenting is often designed to control behavior.**
  
  - **Of course, we must control behavior, but that must not be the whole story.**
  
- **Examples of how to reach the heart**
  - **1 year-old Jack**
  
  - **2 year-old Christina**
  
  - **4 year-old Sandra**
  
  - **6 year-old Michael**

