Parenting with Purpose
The Early Years

PART 2: MODELING THE WAY

Jesus confidently said, “Follow me.” The apostle Paul confidently said, “Follow me as I follow Christ.” Do you feel confident in modeling a way of faith for your child to follow as well?

CONNECT

Take a few minutes to discuss this question as a group:
Where is your dream vacation spot with your kids? Without your kids?

LEARN

Watch the video for Part 2: Modeling the Way.

DISCUSS

1. Looking back on this past year, what have you learned as a parent? Did those lessons change your relationship with God?
2. What kind of faith tradition did your parents model for you as you were growing up? What do you remember fondly? At what point did you start to form your own opinions about God?
3. Read Proverbs 22:6 together:

   > *Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*

   While there’s a lot of wisdom behind this verse, it’s not a guaranteed promise for how life will unfold. What values or priorities are you currently trying to instill in your children?
4. The idea of “starting children off on the way they should go” may seem distant if you’re currently caring for an infant or baby. You’re just trying to keep them healthy and alive in the present, let alone plan for their future. But even now, what can you do to intentionally model a Jesus-way for them to experience and eventually recognize?

APPLY

Looking ahead to the upcoming months and years, what is something you can work on as a parent? As a partner? In your relationship with God?

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