

STUDY GUIDE

for the week of September 21, 2008

DESPERATE PARENTS

Dave Francis

Desperate
Housewives
Things are not always as they seem.

OPEN IN PRAYER

A TIME OF WORSHIP (Optional) - You may want to sing a hymn or chorus.

INTRODUCTION

Parenting provides us with specific joys and a sense of peace at times, yet there are other experiences that can lead us into desperation. There are many factors that can produce this sense of desperation. It may be the culture we live within, the weight of the responsibility to parent right, or it may be the fear of not knowing how our kids will turn out. God desires that we parent right and, in spite of these factors, believes that we can be great parents.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Take a moment and read Judges 13:1-12.

1. What do you think were some of the factors that caused Manoah and his wife to be desperate?
2. What are some of the factors that may be causing a sense of desperation for you as a parent?
3. Manoah and his wife responded to this desperation by looking to God through prayer and listening to God through His word. How have you looked to God? What are some of the prayers you have been bringing to God about your kids? Have you been able to listen to God by looking at His word in the Bible? If so, what have you been hearing from God?

MOVING FORWARD

In order to parent well, it is important to let God be involved in parenting you. Are you prepared to have God parent you? Have you considered how being in a small group can provide help to you as a parent? The seminar, *Energizing Your Family's Spiritual Life* offered Wednesday, September 24 at the church is available to help you parent well. Finally, the monthly virtue resource from Kids Cove is available to help you be actively involved in your child's spiritual development.

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and Proverbs 22:6.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Let God parent you in order to parent well. Judges 13:8,12

CLOSING PRAYER



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