

Group Discussion Guide

“Wrapped in Love” by Pastor Tony

Choose the best question(s) for your group

December 17, 2017

Questions by Pastor Ric

Below are some discussion questions relating to a recent sermon. These are provided so that your Life Group can discuss what was shared. Previous Weeks' Discussion Guides and Sermon Notes are available through the [Sermons under the Resources menu](#). Click on the sermon series and then the sermon you are interested in. You will see a paper icon under the sermon title. Click the icon to open the sermon notes. To listen to the sermon click on the speaker icon.

TEXTS: Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-25; Matthew 2:1-18; Philippians 2:5-8

1. Discuss in your group how parenting in the USA has evolved over the years, then read this quote: “Don’t make it your goal to raise godly kids, make it your goal to be a godly parent.” How does this quote stack-up to God’s style of love? (remember the difference between goals and desires)
2. Jesus’ birth in lowly surroundings is in stark contrast to today’s “birthing hospitals”. What physical and spiritual characteristics do you consider absolutely essential (for parents) for the birth and growth of a healthy child?
3. Jesus’ birth was anything but comfortable. Yet happiness and comfort for us and our kids is something highly sought after. In his book, *The Road Less Traveled*, Dr. M. Scott Peck speaks of *discomfort* (which we love to avoid), and four parenting tools which he says defines *discipline*. The tools are: 1. Delaying of gratification, 2. Acceptance of responsibility, 3. Dedication to truth and 4. Balancing (healthy boundaries). Discuss your views of how important these tools are and how much they are used and/or avoided in parenting today.
4. God’s values are warped by our culture. Love becomes selfish, forgiveness and restoration become conditional, service becomes self-centered and ego driven. How can parents and Life Groups teach these truths (love is unconditional, restoration through forgiveness is always possible and service brings glory to God) to our kids through mission/other ways?