



STUDY GUIDE

PARENTING 216

09.16.2018

[start with prayer]

Missions Prayer Focus this week:
International Friendships, Inc. (IFI)

[set up]

Which of your parents best exhibited the fruit of the Spirit? Your mom or your dad? Describe how that fruit was demonstrated through their lives. What was their “secret sauce”? How were they able to effectively bear that fruit? What principles have you put into practice in your life because of their example?

[digging deeper]

Read Galatians 5:22-23. Discuss why a non-Christian cannot bear the fruit of the Spirit.

Discuss why non-Christians can sometimes exhibit more patience than a Christian even if that “patience” is not in reality a fruit of the Spirit.

Ask someone to read aloud Galatians 5:22-26.

Ask someone else to read the same passage.

Ask a third person to convey the truths of that passage in their own words. (No pressure because the rest of the group can fill in the gaps if anything was missing.)

What does this passage teach about God and His guidance to parents?

What are some cross references to this passage that teach us more about the Spirit and His guidance?

On a giant Post-it, ask the group to brainstorm ideas about what it means to stay in step with the Spirit. On the left side of the sheet, identify what staying in step with the Spirit looks like for parents. On the right side of the sheet, brainstorm ideas to help parents with “how to” stay in step with the Spirit.

Ask members of the group to share which idea on the list is most encouraging to them because they see evidence of that in their lives. Ask each member of the group which is most challenging to them because they don't see enough of that in their lives.

[living it out]

Give time for each member of the group to write out a short “I will” statement in order to be obedient to God in light of the passage of Scripture.

Ask, “Would you share your ‘I will’ statement with the group?”

[end with prayer]

Close your time in prayer, asking God to bless the parents of Cuyahoga Valley Church, the children of Cuyahoga Valley Church, and the members of your group to live out their “I will” statements.