

**Parenting With Purpose**  
**A Standalone Sermon**  
**SMCC**

**Small Group Questions:**

1. For parents, the days are long but the years are short. How have you experienced this reality in your life?
  2. As you think about how you were raised or how you are raising your kids, what were the goals, stated or unstated, set by those doing the parenting?
  3. For parents, what's the hardest part of parenting for you?
  4. How might the head, heart, hands framework guide your parenting?
  5. Read the passages below. How is parenting ministry?
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**Sermon Notes:**

For parents, the days are **LONG** but the years are **SHORT**.

The goal is to raise **ADULTS** not kids.

**General Goal:** Adults who want to see you when they don't **HAVE** to or **NEED** to.

**Specific Goal:** People who are fully devoted and fully **DELIGHTED** Jesus followers.

**Ephesians 6:4** *Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

**4 Stages of Parenting:**

1. **Discipline** (1-5)
2. **Training** (5-12)
3. **Coaching** (12-18)
4. **Friendship** (18+)

**2 Timothy 1:3-5** *I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.*

Parenting is **MINISTRY**.

**A Path of Purpose:**

1. **HEAD:** Guide how they think and you will guide what they think.

2. **HEART:** Attune to their emotions and they will develop emotionally.
3. **HANDS:** Facilitate interests rather than force your interests on them.

**Ephesians 4:14-16** *Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

**Two Questions:**

1. Who's in **CHARGE**?
2. Who **LOVES** you?

**Bottom Line:** Give kids a picture of what **COULD** be and **SHOULD** be.