

## Session 5 – Parenting and the Importance of the Local Church

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We love our children and we want the best for our children. This of course would mean, if you are a professing believer, that you would want them, more than anything else to come to salvation and then to grow along with yourself, in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus.

If this is what you want then I would hope that you able to see how important the local church could be in helping you to reach that goal and therefore would do whatever you can do to not only keep yourself attached to this fellowship and involved in this fellowship but also your children as well.

So why would the local church be so important in this Christian parenting process?

1. The local church provides parents with the opportunity to demonstrate the genuineness of their \_\_\_\_\_ (John 13:34,35; 1 John 4:7-11).
  
2. The local church provides parents with the opportunity to be exposed and to expose their children to additional \_\_\_\_\_  
and to a much broader spectrum of \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - a. Parents are to be teaching their children but they should not be the \_\_\_\_\_ ones teaching their children (Romans 12:3-8).

- b. Parents have spiritual gifts but they don't have \_\_\_\_\_ the gifts  
(1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:11-16).
3. The local church through its leaders provides spiritual \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for the parents as they seek to bring spiritual care and  
oversight to their children (Hebrews 13:17).
4. The local church provides positive \_\_\_\_\_  
that can benefit both the parents and their children (Hebrews 10:24,25).

We as parents care about our children. And if we are a true believer then we will  
above all us want our children to come to faith and then to grow and in the grace and  
knowledge of the Lord Jesus. And if this is what we want we need to understand the  
importance of the church in helping you reach to goal.

So hopefully in understanding the importance of the church you strive to make sure  
that not only you remain closely attached and involved in the church as best as you  
but also your children.

## Session 5 – Additional Study

Read Ephesians 5:25-27.

Reflect on Christ's love for the church.

Ask God to fill you and your family with that kind of love.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-13.

Why is the church called the body of Christ?

What significance should that have on our attachment to the church and our involvement in the church?

Why are some excuses that professing Christians give to justify their lack of attachment or involvement?

Do you believe that your attachment and involvement is glorifying God?

Do you believe that your management of your children's attachment and involvement in the church is glorifying to God?