

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

*YOUR PARENTING GOALS ARE TOO SMALL*

2 Timothy 2:2

Stand-alone Sermon

**ICEBREAKER:** How do you best avoid conflict?

**OVERVIEW:** If you aim for the stars, you may reach a mountain, but if you aim for a mud puddle, you'll hit it every time. When setting goals, it is important to set them high enough to inspire you to maximize your potential. What about when it comes to parenting? Christian parents obviously have different goals than non-Christians. We want to lead our children to salvation, baptism, sound doctrine, etc. And while those are good goals, are they big enough? In this study we will go deeper with the long-term goal of Christian parents.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. How has your mother been a blessing to you?
3. Has your mother influenced your faith? If so, how?
4. Have you ever set a goal that was too low?

5. Read Proverbs 22:15.
  - a. Why do children need parents?
  - b. What must parents do to help their kids?
6. Read Proverbs 29:15.
  - a. What are the two forms of parenting described in this verse?
  - b. What are the risks of neglecting the "rod of correction?"
  - c. What is the purpose of the "rod?"
7. Refer to Sunday's sermon and answer the following questions.
  - a. What was Paul's instruction to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:2, and how can parents apply this to their parenting goals?
  - b. What can parents do to not only disciple their kids, but to equip their kids to reach their kids?

**The Last Word:** "Our children are not falling away because the church is doing a poor job – although that is undoubtedly a factor. Our children are falling away because we are asking the church to do what God designed the family to accomplish. Discipleship and multi-generational faithfulness begins and ends at home." Voddie Baucham

