

Leader's Notes for Session G17
Parenting & Mentoring: The Most Important Job of All

Session Preparation

The depth of this session will be enhanced if each member thinks about the topic in advance. Please distribute the preparation sheet at the end of the previous session and make sure absent members receive a copy. Have extra copies at the gathering for people who have forgotten to bring their copies.

This topic may bring strong emotions to the surface so make sure there is a box of tissues on hand.

The initial reading (from The Prophet) is available as a recording called "Your Children" (by two groups: Sweet Honey in the Rock and The Flirtations). If you choose to use the recorded version rather than reading the poem out loud, make sure there is a tape player at the gathering place.

Preliminaries

Prior to beginning the session, take a few minutes to go over the announcements of church events give at the last leader meeting or from a recent church bulletin. Also, remind members of the next meeting date.

Choose someone to light the chalice and to read the opening words and the second reading.

Emphasize that this session is appropriate for everyone, even those who are not parents.

Timekeeping

Use this timetable as an aid to keep the gathering on track.

Preliminaries	2 minutes
Opening	1 minute
Check-in	15 minutes
Reading	5 minutes
Silence	5 minutes
Deep listening	60 minutes
Feedback	30 minutes
Singing	2 minutes
Reading	1 minute
<u>Closing</u>	<u>1 minute</u>
Total	approx. 120 minutes

Preparation for the Next Session

Make sure everyone gets a copy of the preparation for the next session.