

Preparation for Session G17
Parenting & Mentoring: The Most Important Job of All

At the next SGM we will be discussing parenting from a variety of perspectives looking backward and forward. Please consider the following questions in preparation. When the word "parent" appears, feel free to see any adult who played a significant role in your life.

1. How did you feel about your parents as you were growing up?

2. Describe your parents' parenting practices and how they affected you.

3. What were some of the things your parents said to you that you vowed *you* would never say to a child? (And which of these things have you found yourself saying anyway?)

4. What was one thing you would have liked to have heard from your parents but never did? (And is it something you say to your own children?)

5. If you have children, mentor children, teach RE, etc., try to flash back to yourself at their age and see your parents and other adults through your eyes as you were then.

6. What do you feel are the most important things parents and other adults do for kids? Of those, what do you feel is the very most important?

7. Have you found ways to connect with children in the church? Challenge: When you encounter a child at church, take the time to get to know him or her a little better.