

PARENTING CONVERSATIONS

OUTSIDE INFLUENCES

SCRIPTURE

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 5:13-16

“Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals.” 1 Corinthians 15:33

MAIN IDEA

This session with the Greene's is so practical for us as we look to give our kids freedom to grow into adulthood and protect them from the traps and plans of the enemy. Our ultimate goal is to set our kids up to be a light for Jesus in the world. They will be around people who are far from God, they will have temptations to make bad decisions, but we have the wisdom of God. We can rely on the Holy Spirit, our family values, and quality relationships with our kids to navigate the teenage years of life. Helping them be wise and processing the decision results will take time and effort, but it is an investment we should make to help them be Christ-Followers for life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 What potential situation is your child already facing or facing shortly that would benefit from Greene's suggestion to role play?
- 2 What are some minor or trivial topics you could talk about with your child to build trust and equity?
- 3 What are some ways you can show your child that you are interested in their lives, value their thoughts, and that you prioritize them?
- 4 Do you have a “poker face”? Use that when your child says something you think is outrageous and out of the question.
- 5 What ways can you be in the process before your son or daughter even goes on their first date?
- 6 If you have a child not following God, What are ways you can engage the body of Christ as you pray for and stand for your child?

ACTION STEPS

Have some role playing time with your child processing out decisions they will likely face.