

Kirk Cameron's



engage

**Five practical lessons for raising your
kids in a social media generation**

Five-Lesson Study Guide

Kirk and Chelsea Cameron's



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What history teaches us



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Lesson 4

WHAT HISTORY TEACHES US



LESSON FOUR STUDY GUIDE

When we look back at history, we can truly see how important it is to protect and encourage the younger generations while they are in our care. We can also see how important and influential young people are, in every generation. While some stories may frighten us when we think about the evil forces that strategically bombard our children, we need these stories to open our eyes to the seriousness of the task at hand. History is full of stories that help us raise our children well. Your child, no matter their circumstances, can be used powerfully by God. However, it is up to you, as a parent, to recognize the pressures that surround them daily and guide them toward the Lord. The enemy wants to stunt their spiritual growth, but with the power of God and your training, your children can become spiritual giants in their generation!

Psalm 127:4-5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

1. The hearts and minds of children have been targeted by tyrants and other forces of evil for thousands of years. Why do you think this is true?

3 John 1:11 Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.

2. Your child can either be great force for good or great force for evil. How can you start encouraging your child now to be a great force for good?

Colossians 3:1-2 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

3. Dr. Foster said that what goes into the eyes and ears of our children will impact their spiritual lives forever. Does this change the way you think about their use of social media and technology? How so?

John 10:3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

4. If you want your child to be a world-changer, it's important that they are sensitive to God's call at a young age. How can you and your spouse teach your child to listen and obey God's call on their life?

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

5. Do you believe that the way you train your child now can actually make a Kingdom-sized impact on them and on future generations? How does this thought change the way you view your role as a parent?

Take Action

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

- Listening to Dr. Foster's stories from history is instructive for both adults and children. Plan a night this week to sit down with your children and share the story of Saint Patrick and David Livingstone. Ask your kids for their thoughts, and if they believe they could ever accomplish something great for God's kingdom in their generation.
- Secondly, ask them to name their heroes. Ask what they think constitutes a hero – the qualities, traits, and attributes. Finally, call out hero-like traits you see in your kids and encourage them to continue to develop those qualities.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- Do you ever think about how God is going to use you to change the world for good and bring the blessings of the gospel to others?
- What is one simple way you can make the world a better place this week?

DEEPER DIVE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The struggle with selfishness, pride and idolatry in our lives and the lives of our children is a result of a deeper heart issue. We want to give one question/theme each week that will help you and/or your child look further into the heart to identify the real problem and to surrender it to God.

This week's deeper dive question is for your kids: We are either working for God or against God. What are some things in your life that point others to God? What are some things in your life that might point someone away from God? Do you truly believe that God's ways are the best ways to live your life? Why or why not?

Parents, use Matthew 12:30, Matthew 5:13-14, and Romans 12:1-2 to guide this discussion.

Additional Resources

As parents, we can be the needed catalyst for positive change in our children's lives, equipping them with truth and confidence for the road ahead. Use the resources below to encourage them, share stories with them, and cheer them on as they pursue a relationship with God and respond to His call to be a world-changer.




Monumental: In Search of America's National Treasure: Kirk Cameron travels across Europe and the United States to discover America's true national treasure. And he discovers timeless truths in an of-forgotten monument situated on America's east coast. This film will help spark more conversations with your child about what we can learn from young Christians in history.

(FREE) The Culture Translator by Axis: Gain weekly insight into how pop culture, technology, and media are influencing your children. The Cultural Translator is delivered right to your inbox.



(FREE) A Parent's Guide to Today's Technology: Focus On The Family's first annual FREE tech guide provides parents with information and suggestions to help talk to your kids about technology. Families can enjoy the benefits of interacting online, while minimizing the potential problems related to use of technology. This guide provides up-to-date information on how kids are using mobile and online devices, and how that participation can impact them physically, psychologically, emotionally, and socially.

Additional Resources (cont.)



UknowKids: UknowKids was created by parents to help parents. uKnowKids protects kids in more than 90 countries around the world. Track your child's text messages, phone calls, social media activity, "secret" networking accounts, and more. This program doesn't block access, but rather monitors you child's activity so that you know exactly how to address their issues.

The True Story of St. Patrick: This short video will help you tell your children more about St. Patrick.



Stories from TheCourage.com

Is it hard to trust God with your
kids?

Teaching your children how to
obey God's word