Spiritual Parent Hood April 19, 2015

[Mat 28:19 NASB] 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

[Mat 22:37-40 NASB] 37 And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' 38 "This is the great and foremost commandment. 39 "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' 40 "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

Poll: What is your age range?

Under 18: 15 18-24: 16 25-30: 10 31-40: 18 31-40: 18 41-50: 12 51-60: 12 61+: 5

Poll: Do you currently have one person (other than family) that you are discipling?

Yes: 44 No: 44

Poll: Are you currently involved in a small group?

Yes: 42 No: 46

Poll: How many of our students can you name?

0-10: 48 11-20: 18 21-30: 6 31-40: 9 41-50: 7

If we don't know the young people in our church, how can we say they are a priority?

We have ran out of arrows in our quiver.

[Psa 127:3-5 NASB] 3 Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They will not be ashamed When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

[1Th 2:7-8 NASB] 7 But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children. 8 Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

We are afraid to go where the untamable are.

We are expecting new Christians to figure things out on their own.

[Rom 15:14 NASB] 14 And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.

[1Co 4:14-15 NASB] 14 I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children. 15 For if you were to have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

A spiritual parent loves regardless and is relentless in their pursuit of love.

When we are unsure of what to do, we get scared and give up on them.

[2Ch 29:11 NASB] 11 "My sons, do not be negligent now, for the LORD has chosen you to stand before Him, to minister to Him, and to be His ministers and burn incense."

[1Pe 2:4-5 NASB] 4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

[Mal 2:1-3 NASB] 1 "And now this commandment is for you, O priests. 2 "If you do not listen, and if you do not take it to heart to give honor to My name," says the LORD of hosts, "then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings; and indeed, I have cursed them already, because you are not taking it to heart. 3 "Behold, I am going to rebuke your offspring, and I will spread refuse on your faces, the refuse of your feasts; and you will be taken away with it.

Where our joy comes from, reveals where our priorities lie.

 $[3\mbox{Jo 1:4 NASB}]$ 4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.