



Video Discussion Guide
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The 8 Zones of Fatherhood



Different fathering styles are needed for your children as they move from toddlers to grade schoolers to young adults. What kind of role should Christian fathers play along the way? Pastor Mark Jeske has been practicing on his four children and shares stories from his family life and insights from the Word.

Pastor Mark Jeske

2016 Conference Topic
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Zone F YOUNG ADULT-MILLENNIALS-AGE 23-29

Play 8 Zones Part 6

DISCUSS: What is a parent’s responsibility to help young adults financially? With college debt? With rent? With a house down payment?

SITUATION: Your young adult child has left the nest and then struggles. He or she asks to move back home? Why would you say no? Why would you say yes? Conditions?

Zone G MARRIED CHILDREN

Play 8 Zones Part 7

DISCUSS: “The biggest dilemma is watching how your kids are raising their kids...’You’re letting them get away with that?’... You’ve got to put your spanking hand in the holster... AND you just have to let them figure it out and wait for them to ask you.” Agree? Disagree?

COMMENT AND RESPOND: “Grandchildren are the ultimate mulligan. Think of how many times you screwed up as a dad and now you get a do over. As a grandpa you get to start with dessert and work your way backwards.”

Zone H RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

Play 8 Zones Part 8

DISCUSS: “Broken homes are not just for unbelievers but they are in the Christian world, too.... Our congregations can be so valuable helping single moms. Grandpa is a key person to come in and bring in that ‘dad thing’.”



Zone A TODDLERS-AGE 0-5

Play 8 Zones Part 1

1

Tired All The Time

DISCUSS: “The one word that sticks in my mind is exhaustion. As tired as I was, my wife was even more tired than I was. If I had one ‘Do Over’ I wish I had taken better care of my wife.”

DISCUSS: “Children of successful parents hear 30,000,000 more words than children of broken or dysfunctional families. Children who are read to have double the vocabulary of children who are not read to. By age 3 there are massive cognitive differences between children who are managed well.”

Discuss: “Happy Wife. Happy Life”



Zone B DIAPER EMANCIPATION-AGE 5-10

Play 8 Zones Part 2

2

The Golden Age

DISCUSS: What makes this the “Golden Age”?

DISCUSS: “You need to teach them about obedience. Your word has to be law. As a father I’m never going to say something twice. I will say something one time and the child will respond.” In today’s world is this just wishful thinking? How does a father achieve this?

DISCUSS: “Mom and dad must be in such agreement that a child can’t even put a piece of paper between them. Defiance is just not allowed in this house... A father must be strong and not let a strong willed child dominate the house... Dad sets the tone.” Again, just wishful thinking? How can Dad and Mom do that?



Zone C MIDDLE SCHOOL-AGE 11-14

Play 8 Zones Part 3

3

DISCUSS: “The pivot away from parents begins. You are no longer their prime source of information. Your approval is not coveted. What their friends think of them is more important than what you think of them. They start to push back. They don’t want to be seen with parents anymore.” Is that really true? How do you deal with that?

DISCUSS: Dr. Mary Hines: “You have to understand that women have no walls around their hearts. They are defenseless.” What does that mean? What are the implications of that for the Christian husband and father?



Zone D HIGH SCHOOL-AGE 14-18

Play 8 Zones Part 4

4

DISCUSS “DETACHMENT”: When Pastor Jeske’s parents took him to a high school event he ditched them. Was that good or bad or to be expected? How would you respond in that situation?

FAMILY MEALS: Are they important? How can you pull them off as the kids get older? How can you get them to talk? What do you talk about?



Zone E COLLEGE-AGE 18-23

Play 8 Zones Part 5

5

DISCUSS: “Your work is mostly done. You have to let them go. They are going to give you a report card on how you did.” Is that accurate? Why could letting go be hard? What would your “report card” look like?

DISCUSS: “Essentially you are becoming God at the moment you let your kids go because that’s how He treats us. So lift them up and let them go. Clap and cheer for them. Speak up when you think they are making bad choices. Call them men and women.”