

SESSION 27 – TRUE GREATNESS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. If you chase the goals of the world, it is so easy to get off _____.
2. Most parents have a tendency to aim their children at a future focused on success.
3. It's so easy to take very legitimate parts of a child's life & over-prioritize for them.
4. We can sabotage our children's future when we make _____ the goal of their future rather than an outcome of living a truly great life.

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” 1 John 2:15-17 (ESV)

5. If we aim our children at wealth, beauty, power, and fame, we set them up for an adulthood that is _____.

II. DEFINING TRUE GREATNESS

- True Greatness: a passionate love for Jesus Christ that shows itself in an unquenchable love for and concern for _____.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies As a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual act of worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12: 1-2 (ESV)

- Learning to live a life of true greatness sends children into the world focused upwards toward God and outwards toward others.

III. FOUR QUALITIES OF GREATNESS

1. A _____ Heart.
A reverence for God and respect for others.

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV)

2. A _____ Heart.

An appreciation for what they have been given and Who has given it to them.

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”.
1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)

3. A _____ Heart.

Taking great delight in sharing with others what God has entrusted to you.

“Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38 (ESV)

4. A _____ Heart.

Willingness to take action in order to help someone else.

IV. HOW TO INSTILL TRUE GREATNESS IN OUR KIDS

1. Be _____ of true greatness in your kids.
2. True greatness becomes the expectation in your home rather than the exception.
3. Provide _____ for your children to experience the lifestyle of true greatness.
4. Valuing and praising our children's efforts at true greatness.

V. PREPARING YOUR KIDS TO ANSWER THE THREE BIGGEST QUESTIONS IN LIFE

1. What is my _____ going to be?

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

A commitment to true greatness frees your children up to pursue _____ plan for their lives rather than the world's.

ANSWERS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. If you chase the goals of the world, it is so easy to get off **Course**.
2. Most parents have a tendency to aim their children at a future focused on success.
3. It's so easy to take very legitimate parts of a child's life & over-prioritize for them.
4. We can sabotage our children's future when we make **Success** the goal of their future rather than an outcome of living a truly great life.

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” 1 John 2:15-17 (ESV)

5. If we aim our children at wealth, beauty, power, and fame, we set them up for an adulthood that is **Self-Absorbed**.

II. DEFINING TRUE GREATNESS

- True Greatness: a passionate love for Jesus Christ that shows itself in an unquenchable love for and concern for **Others**.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies As a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual act of worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12: 1-2 (ESV)

- Learning to live a life of true greatness sends children into the world focused upwards toward God and outwards toward others.

III. FOUR QUALITIES OF GREATNESS

1. A **Humble** Heart.

A reverence for God and respect for others.

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV)

2. A **Grateful** Heart.

An appreciation for what they have been given and Who has given it to them.

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”.
1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)

3. A **Generous** Heart.

Taking great delight in sharing with others what God has entrusted to you.

“Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38 (ESV)

4. **Servant's** Heart.

Willingness to take action in order to help someone else.

IV. HOW TO INSTILL TRUE GREATNESS IN OUR KIDS

1. Be **Examples** of true greatness in your kids.
2. True greatness becomes the expectation in your home rather than the exception.
3. Provide **Opportunities** for your children to experience the lifestyle of true greatness.
4. Valuing and praising our children's efforts at true greatness.

V. PREPARING YOUR KIDS TO ANSWER THE THREE BIGGEST QUESTIONS IN LIFE

1. What is my **Mission** going to be?

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

A commitment to true greatness frees your children up to pursue **God's** plan for their lives rather than the world's.

2. Who is my **Mate** going to be?
3. Who is my **Master** going to be?

“If you aim at heaven you’ll get earth thrown in, but you aim at earth and you’ll get neither.” - C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*