

The Riedy Reader

June 2018



Maybe you, like me, had never heard the term 'Parenentials' used to identify millennial parents. I have a hard time even believing that this generation, most commonly defined as those born between the early 1980s and early 1990s are even old enough to have kids. Sure makes me feel old! The fact is, though, that **parenting is VERY important** to this generation. One survey I read actually stated that millennials are "more likely to say that parenthood is a major part of their identity that previous generations"! 91% of this survey's respondents value "raising successful children" more highly than "living up to my full potential". These results make it very clear that parenting is important to this group.

This is an initial idea behind why we at FamilyLife began to look into focusing on parenting. Maybe you remember my analogy a while back about marriage being a 'Trojan Horse' for the gospel? People seeking help in their marriage relationship are exposed to the gospel message. Well, this same concept can hold true for parenting. This Millennial generation is less concerned with marriage help, since so many are co-habiting. We are hoping to take advantage of their interest in parenting advice to also share Biblical truths of salvation and Biblical marriage. We pray that God will use FamilyLife's Art of Parenting™ in mighty ways as an outreach.

But does that mean that we intend for this parenting initiative to only be an evangelistic tool? Not at

Riedy Road Trip!

We are excited for this busy trip! Please let us know if you'd like to set up a visit or host a small group get-together while we are in your area. Below are a few connection opportunities:

In PA:

June 10th, before & after 9:15 service at Bethany UMC, **3801 Brookside Rd., Macungie, PA**
June 12th, 4-7 pm stop by for a visit at the Panera Bread, **6379 Hamilton Blvd., Allentown PA**

In CT:

June 17th, before & after all services at Groton Bible Chapel, **66 Toll Gate Rd., Groton, CT**
June 19th, 4-7 pm stop by for a visit at the Panera Bread, **220 Rt. 12, Groton, CT**
June 23d, FREE event at Groton Bible Chapel—9-12 marriage & 1-3 parenting
Email info@grotonbiblechapel.org to register!



all! A recent Barna Group study clearly shows that even 'Christian parents' need help and guidance. In their study only **one out of every five parents identified 'instilling a set of religious beliefs' as an important part of raising children.** When asked what makes a parent successful, only 4 percent identified prayer as an integral part of parenting and a scant 1 percent pointed to good character. Probably most shocking of all, Barna says "Only three out of 10 born-again parents included the salvation of their child in the list of critical parental emphases." We are praying that God uses FamilyLife to change those families as well!

In order to reach the most people, both churched and unchurched, we have developed two methods of using FamilyLife's Art of Parenting™ (see chart below). The Online Course option will be particularly important to those 'Parennials' to whom "Google is the new grandparent, the new neighbor, the new nanny." Pray with us for God to use this material in mighty ways to transform parents of all ages!

In Him, **Eric & Deb**

FamilyLife's Art of Parenting Online Course/Small-Group Comparison

Online Course

- For **parents** on their own or with a spouse
- **Twenty-four 8-10 minute videos**
- Brief **questions for individuals/spouses** after each video
- **No workbook, book or movie**
- Includes a **digital arrow chart**
- Access to **digital bonus content** (age-graded videos, expert clips, articles, e-books, a 30-day prayer guide, and podcast)

Small-Group Series

- For church or home-based **groups of parents**
- **Eight 25-40 minute videos**
- **Group discussion** questions after each session
- **One workbook** per kit, book & LA movie
- Two **hard copy arrow charts** per workbook
- Access to **digital bonus content** (age-graded videos, expert clips, articles, e-books, a 30-day prayer guide, and podcast)

Tear & Prayer



Pray for the Riedy Family
serving with **FAMILYLIFE®**
Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

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Pray for our upcoming road trip-June 8-26
Pray for Charissa as she 'holds down the fort' here in Little Rock as we travel.
Pray for continued progress in the emptying & selling of Eric's parents home in PA
Praise for a chance to honor Dennis & Barbara Rainey and their 40+ years of ministry-celebration on June 7th
Praise that Eric & I were both able to finish all of our assignments for Old Testament Survey class
Praise for a safe & effective ministry trip to the Pittsburgh area for Eric last week, including Eric finishing up his OT paper in the airplane!