

Questions for Reflection

“Healing the Hearts of our Children” Supplemental Videos

Malachi 4:5-6: Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Video 10: “The Prodigal Son”

Is there any way in which your child is either rebelling like the younger son in the parable, or striving like a “good child” to earn approval like the older son?

Children are responsible for their own actions. However, is there any way you might have inadvertently tempted your child to either outwardly rebel or strive to earn approval?

Have other persons or factors that have tempted your child to become a prodigal?

Take time to listen to the Holy Spirit. How would He have you approach your child like the father in the parable? In what ways does He want you to show your child the love of Father God?

Video 11: “How Elijah Turned the Hearts of Fathers”

The “gods” (actually, demonic principalities) that affected culture and family life in Elijah’s day are still active, “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the world forces of this darkness” (Ephesians 6:12a). How do you see these principalities affecting today’s culture and family life?

Are there any ways in which the principalities that affected families in ancient Israel are now affecting your children or your relationship with them?

Spend time with trusted, confidential companions in intercessory prayer. Pray that your children and your relationship with them is hidden from the influence of principalities and that the Holy Spirit’s influence will affect both your heart and the hearts of your children.

Video 12: “Questions and Answers”

The questions discussed in this video are:

- How can we face regrets about hurting our children?
- How can children honor dishonorable parents?
- How can children confront parents in an honoring way?
- Should we apologize to a disrespectful child?
- How can we handle our own awkward apologies and express vulnerable emotions?

Which question most relates to your relationship with your child? In light of that question, what have you learned in this video that you can put into practice with regard to either your child or your own parents?

Pray with trusted, confidential companions that the Holy Spirit will enable you to put into practice what you have learned in this video.