

Intentional Parenting Conversations

WEEK 1 / SOIL WORK / WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE GROW?

Each week, we'll have an outcome we're working toward. This week's outcome is to **draft a goal for your parenting and a set of values** that allow you to have a vision to guide your parenting day in and day out. Guiding questions:

- What is 'in the soil' of your parenting— How have your experiences of *being parented* shaped how you parent today?
- What do you want to see grow in and through your family life?

WEEK 1 PROMPT / WHAT DO I WANT TO SEE GROW?

Imagine your child at age 25 or 30.

Not their career.

Not their achievements.

Not how others describe them.

Who are they becoming?

Sit with these prompts:

- When my child leaves my home, I hope they are the kind of person who ____ (fill it in) ____ ...
- The kind of relationship I hope we have is...
- If they walk away with only three deep convictions from our home, I pray they would be...

Now ask:

- Are my daily reactions aligned with that long-term hope?
- Where do my anxieties distort my true goal?

The Shema¹ begins with loving God with heart, soul, and strength. Jesus clarifies what this looks like— loving your neighbor as yourself. A strong formation begins with clarity.

¹ The Bible Project has great videos explaining the Shema [here](#). We also discuss the significance of them in the Week 1 NOTES. Scot McKnight has a great book on the Shema called '[The Jesus Creed](#)' and Andy Crouch doubles down on the importance of the Shema in his book '[The Life We Are Looking For](#).' You can hear [an interview](#) with Andy Crouch about this in relation to growing up with technology today.

Is this is a goal you want to adopt for your family?

If not, what is?

What is gained by considering the Shema?

Or how might you phrase the Shema?

And what values do you hold?

How do they support your goal and what you hope to see grow?

Or don't?

Lent is a time of self-reflection and asking God to illuminate things about us that currently may feel dark.

It's OK if you feel that.

God is committed to us and will bring the growth.

If you need some ideas for values you can write your own or circle values you most want to shape your home:

Try to write 5-7.

Examples (add your own):

Trust in God / Faith

Honesty

Curiosity

Humility

Resilience

Compassion

Courage

Repentance & forgiveness

Hospitality

Cleanliness

Fun

Hope

Faith