

“Purposeful Parenting” Proverbs 1:8-9

<sup>8</sup> Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

<sup>9</sup> They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

<sup>10</sup> My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them.

1. Galatians 6:10 and Ephesians 2:19 says that we all belong to the same household. When we are family in the church, we have responsibility not only for our own children but for all the children in our church family. Just as the famous African proverb from the Nigerian Igbo culture says that 'It takes a village to raise a child', it also takes a church to raise a child up in Christ. How have you invested in the children of VCEFC? What does it mean to be a spiritual father or mother to someone (not necessarily a child)?
2. The Hebrew word Shema שמע mean to listen and also to obey. The instruction of proverb is not only for us to hear it but to act and apply it to our lives. How do we help children (or others) choose wisdom? Where does wisdom come from?
3. Read Proverbs 3:1. Do you love or despise God's discipline? What does Discipline show about God and about us?
4. Read Deuteronomy 6:7-9 How do teach our Children (or others) to have a right relationship with God?
5. What do you have to do to find teachable moments and model for them the right relationship with God?