

# FORERUNNER

## Families

### (Week 1) Family Forerunner Series

Illuminate: Which Way?

#### Leader's Tip:

This study isn't about covering every question—it's about meaningful conversations. Feel free to choose the topics that best fit your group. Be mindful that not everyone has children, but their insights are just as valuable. These principles apply to all relationships, so encourage open sharing and learning from one another.

#### The Win:

Group members will recognize that parenting requires **both a plan and intentionality** in creating meaningful discipleship opportunities for their children.

#### Ask these warm-up questions:

- Reflecting on your childhood, how would you describe the way your parents guided your spiritual growth?
- In what ways did their approach shape your current faith and perspective on spiritual growth?"

#### Read The Text:

**Proverbs 22:6** *"Start a youth out on his way; even when he grows old he will not depart from it."*

**Proverbs 14:12** *"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."*

#### Ask This:

- Proverbs 22:6 speaks of training a child. What are some practical steps parents can take to ensure they are intentionally directing their children's spiritual growth?
- What are some "ways that seem right" in today's culture that may lead children away from faith?

#### Read the following case study aloud:

Mike and Lisa Thompson are raising their two children, Ava (14) and Ethan (10), while managing the demands of school, sports, church, and social activities. Though they desire to raise their kids in a Christian home, they haven't developed a clear discipleship plan.

- Mike grew up in church but finds it challenging to integrate faith into daily parenting.



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- Lisa prays with the kids at bedtime but feels uncertain about teaching them Scripture.
- Ava is becoming more influenced by her peers, while Ethan has started questioning why they go to church.

One evening, Ava asked, “Why do we believe in God? Some of my friends say faith is outdated.” Mike and Lisa struggled to respond beyond, “Because we do.”

Lisa left the conversation feeling uneasy. Up until now, they had assumed that taking their kids to church and encouraging good behavior would be enough. But now, she wondered: *Are we truly preparing them to navigate life with a strong faith?*

## Ask the Following Questions:

- What signs indicate that the Thompsons may lack intentional direction in their parenting?
- If the Thompsons continue without a clear discipleship plan, what challenges might arise?
- If you were mentoring Mike and Lisa, what practical advice would you offer to help strengthen their children’s faith?
- Many parents struggle with confidence in teaching their kids about faith. How can churches and communities come alongside families in this role?

**Watch This Song Video: “Lead Me” by Sanctus Real.** <https://youtu.be/yLr6G8Xy5uc?si=dowca4sSQ7JwaBjV>

## Ask The Following Questions about the Song Video:

- What emotions or thoughts did the song stir in you?
- The song speaks of a desire to be present and engaged. What are some distractions or obstacles that prevent us from leading well?

## Closing Thoughts:

- What is one action step you can take this week to align your family’s direction with biblical truth?
- Come back next week to learn how Forerunner Families can help create a pathway for intentional discipleship.

**Closing Prayer:** Ask God for wisdom in parenting, strength to be intentional, and a heart to guide children toward Him.

