

## Video #3 Supplemental Notes - Relating to our Children

### I. Moving from the book of Moses to the historical books (Joshua-Job)

#### A. Like with Moses, God used others besides birthparents to raise/care for children

- Job 31:18 *'from my youth the fatherless grew up with me as with a father...'*
- Esther 2:7 *'when her mother and father died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter'*
- Samuel (as 3-year-old brought to Eli to raise, 1 Sam. 1-2, he calls *'my son,'* 3:6)
- Obed (son of Ruth, a moabitess not biologically related to Naomi her in-law)  
Ruth 4:16-17 (NIV) *Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him. The women living there said, 'Naomi has a son.' And they named him Obed.*
- Mephibosheth was orphaned at age 5 when he became disabled (2 Samuel 4:4).  
2 Samuel 9: *The king asked, "Is there... one of the house of Saul to whom I can show God's kindness?...Don't be afraid," David said to him, "for I will surely show you kindness...and you will always eat at my table." ...So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons...he always ate at the king's table.*
- Applications? (consider Brian Borgman, Grace and Grit of Adoption, p. 26, 75)

#### B. Relating to our children as God relates to His (Rooted study guide, p. 36)

1. **Time** (*'Samuel grew and the LORD was with him...'* - 1 Samuel 3:19)
2. **Proximity** (Joshua 1:5 *'As I was with Moses, so I will be with you'*)
3. **Intentionality** (2 Sam 7:14-14 *I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; ...I will correct him with the rod ...but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him...)*

#### C. Five ways to enter the reality of your child's suffering (Rooted study guide, p. 37)

1. Know what happened to them, their heart impact (1 Sam 16:7, Borgman 76-78)
2. Understand their weaknesses and encourage their strengths (1 Samuel 23:16)
3. Know their fears (for further study, Shari McMinn, *Adoption*, chapters 39-40)
  - fear may be more obvious in running, "flight" (1 Sam 17:24)
  - fear can also be at the root of hostility, "fight" (1 Sam 18:29, Borgman, 79-80)
  - fear can also manifest in a "freeze" response (1 Sam 28:20)
4. Know their temptations and proactively seek to help them (Job 4:3-4, 16:5)
5. Relate to them on a heart level. Show how much you value and cherish them.  
Dt 14:1-2 *'you are the sons of the Lord...the Lord has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession out of all the peoples on earth'* (or 'special treasure')  
Dt 32:9-10 (NLT) *'the people of Israel belong to the LORD...his special possession. He found them in a desert land...watched over them; he guarded them as...his own eyes.*

#### For further study:

- Scriptures in historical books for fear: Josh 1:9, 2 Sam 22, 2 Kgs 6:16, 1 Chron 28:20, Neh 4:14.
- Stories in historical book that show God as the Protector who can relieve fears?
- Value of kids having visuals and re-enacting God's great works? (Josh 4:21-24, Esther 9:27-28)
- L. Rice, *Parenting the Difficult Child: Biblical Perspective on Reactive Attachment*, p. 120-25.