1. Cherish Your Children as a <u>Gift</u> from God.

Children are a gift from God, they belong to God and parents are called to raise them for God!

- 2. Parent Your Children with a Godly <u>Vision</u>.
- 3. Parenting is Challenging...So <u>Persevere</u>!

Four Stages That Parents Have to Work Through in Parenting Their Kids:

- <u>DISCIPLINE</u> from birth to age 5. *Ephesians* 6:1
- TRAINING from ages 6-12.
- <u>COACHING</u> from ages 13-19.
- <u>FRIENDSHIP</u> with adult children.

"Nannies, baby-sitters, day care workers and relatives will not give an ultimate account to God on how your children were raised. You will!" *Honest to God,* Bill Hybels

4. Be Realistic about What You Can <u>Control</u>.

"The only perfect parent who has ever existed is God and not all His children turn out so great. This free will thing really gums up the works!" Dick Alexander

5. Purpose to <u>Partner</u> with God.

As parents, God is more interested in our direction than our perfection.

Five for the Drive A family conversation starter for the ride home

- 1. What is the perfect number of children in a family? Why?
- 2. What is the difference between parenting boys and girls? What is the same?
- 3. What is the most difficult thing you have faced as a family? How did you grow from it?
- 4. If you were disappointed in your family, who could you go to for coaching or encouragement other than a pastor?
- 5. If you could make one change in your family, what would it be? Does the Bible support this change?

Ministry Opportunities

For more information about these and other events, go to SavannahChristian.com/Events.

Year-End Praise Service 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, May 15 Worship Center

Join us as we celebrate the end of another great season of ministry with special worship and videos. No meal will be served and Elevate programming for elementary-aged children will not be held during this service.

"Journey" Serve Day 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturday, May 18 Henderson Campus

Join us as we choose compassion for our community in creating our largest outreach event of the year. We'll build bridges (literally and figuratively), complete our new stage sets, and finish the new pathways. Lunch is provided.

Military Ministry Parenting Workshop 4:30 – 6 p.m. Saturday, May 18 AMC Auditorium, Henderson Campus

After deployment, reintegrating your military family can be a challenge. Drs. Michael and Tamara Grosz will each share biblical principles and practical expertise to help instill stability and ensure a smoother transition. Register at a Connection Kiosk or by contacting Melody Pullin at mpullin@savannahchristian.com.

The Edge

5 p.m. Friday, May 31, - 5:45 p.m. Saturday, June 1 The Link

This retreat will help rising 6th graders get to know the leaders in Blitz and have fun too. Register online by Thursday, May 23.

The Fuse

6 p.m. Saturday, June 1 – 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 2

The Link

This retreat will help rising 9th graders get to know the leaders in Element and have fun too. Register online by Thursday, May 23.