

## **#parentfail – Identity Parenting**

Weekend Discussion Questions

February 4-5, 2017

### **Community:**

1. When you were growing up, what were some of the things you did that frustrated your parents?
2. Looking back, what perspective have you gotten about your childhood since you've grown older?
3. If you're a parent, what's been your biggest #parentfail?

### **Core:**

1. When you think of your parenting experience, your parents, or parents around you that you know, do you agree or disagree with Scott that "parenting is the single most overwhelming task given by God to men and women in the history of the universe"? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think it's so easy for parents to get their identity from their kids?
3. Scott said, "When a good thing becomes an ultimate thing, ultimately that good thing can become a very destructive thing." How have you seen this to be true in people's lives?
4. What are areas (excluding parenting) that you've seen yourself find a false identity in? (ex. Grades, sports, trivia, socializing etc.) how does this, or could this show up in parenting?
5. When have you tried to modify your child's or someone else's behavior instead of leading with Grace and following with Truth? What would it look like to approach the situation differently?
6. Scott mentioned there are five traps that we fall into: Success, Reputation, Control, Doing vs. Being, and Taking things personally. Looking back on your childhood are there any traps you recognize your parents fell into? Which trap do think you have the greatest tendency to fall into?

### **Challenge:**

1. Read Romans 8:15-16: God does not want us to live in fear, and that He has compassion for what you are facing right now as a parent or in other areas of your life. How can you trust Him, as a good father, with what feels impossible?
2. When we live out of our identity as children of God, we don't have to try to get our identity from our children (or relationships, money, success, etc.). What are a few ways you can remind yourself of your identity as a child of God during the week?