

AFFIRMATION OF GROWTH (15 MINUTES)

- **Check in:** Let each person share how their challenge went this week and one thing that God has taught them in facing it.
- **Opening Prayer:** Pray specifically for both those who struggled with the challenge and those who met their goal. Ask God to reveal the truth and continue the work he began in each person.

BIBLE DISCOVERY (35-45 MINUTES: WHAT 10 MINUTES, SO WHAT 10-20 MINUTES, AND NOW WHAT 15-20 MINUTES)

- **Watch Video**
- **Big Idea for gGroup:** As parents, avoiding hard truths and communication wounds hearts and effects our children—but grace and reconciliation build a legacy that lasts.
- **WHAT? (To allow great discussion we will not cover every Bible verse read on Sunday or in the chapter)**
 - **Read 2 Samuel 13:37-14:3**
 - Why did Joab set up this whole deception for David?
 - How long was Absalom gone?
 - **Read 2 Samuel 14:4-12, 13-24**
 - Can someone in their own words retell what happened in this section?
 - What were the stipulations to Absalom's return to Jerusalem?
 - **Read 2 Samuel 14:25-27**
 - What do we learn about Absalom?
 - **Read 1 Samuel 14:28-33**
 - How many years did it take for Absalom to see David?
 - How did Absalom go about getting to be face to face with his father David?
 - How did David show he forgave Absalom for killing Amnon?
- **SO WHAT? (If you like to get this section started you can ask, "what stood out to you from the Bible?")**
 - What could David have done better as a parent?
 - David allowed Absalom to return, but didn't allow him into his presence (vv. 24, 28). How might this half-hearted reconciliation have affected Absalom?
 - What does this passage show us about the dangers of avoiding difficult conversations in our families?
- **NOW WHAT?**
 - How does God's example as our Heavenly Father guide the way we respond to our kids' mistakes or even our own mistakes?
 - What steps can we take to ensure our children feel both biblical discipline and reconciliation—not one without the other?
 - In what ways can unresolved conflict lead to bitterness or rebellion? How can we handle unresolved conflict?

CHALLENGE FOR LIFE (10 MINUTES)

- **One Challenge:** Has this passage revealed a point of growth or a needed change? Is there something you must do or voice in order to better obey God? Be specific and narrow it down with an "I will" statement
 - I will _____
- **Closing Prayer**
- **Good to introduce the Outreach Project as a way we can reach people we know for Christ. Can be a prayer request your group wants to develop into an action. Let them know to think about it and bring ideas next time.**