



**Gospel-Centered Families**

*Parenting Part 3: Gospel-Centered Grandparents*

Proverbs 17:6

How to Prepare

Begin preparing by reading the full passage a few times. Then answer the questions for yourself. Then think about how your Small Group might answer them. Try re-wording the questions to fit you and your Small Group. Don't feel tied down to the discussion guide, just be sure to discuss the main point of the text in your conversations.

Resources-

<https://learn.ligonier.org/articles/the-blessing-of-godly-grandparents>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/raising-children.html>

<https://www.olivetree.com/blog/poetry-bible-parallelism/>

Sermon Outline:

Proverbs 17:6

1. Gospel-Centered Grandparents Have a Related Yet Secondary Role to the Parents.
2. Gospel-Centered Grandparents Have Respect for the Role of the Parents.
3. Gospel-Centered Grandparents Have a Responsibility in Their Role as Believers.

**Proverbs 17:6**

**Contrast the Upright and the Wicked**

6 Grandchildren are the crown of  
old men,  
And the glory of sons is their  
fathers.

# Discussion Questions

## Ask a volunteer to read Proverbs 17:6.

### INTRODUCTION

Here is a question or two to help introduce the topic and jump-start discussion.

**1. What do you think about when you reflect on your parents and grandparents? How does Proverbs 17:6 set the stage for understanding the unique and important role of grandparents within a family, particularly from a gospel-centered perspective?**

### UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION

These questions should help your Small Group dig deeper into the text and then apply it to your lives today.

#### I. Gospel-Centered Grandparents Have a Related Yet Secondary Role to the Parents.

**2. What are some ways that a grandparent's role is very similar to that of parents? How do we see this both biblically and practically?**

**3. What are some ways that a grandparent's role is different and secondary compared to that of parents?**

#### II. Gospel-Centered Grandparents Have Respect for the Role of the Parents.

**4. According to scripture, who are the ones primarily responsible for raising and disciplining children? What does it mean that "the glory of sons is their fathers," and how do we see this in the children today?**

**5. Based on the direct responsibility of parents and the indirect responsibility of grandparents, how should grandparents interact with their adult children's parenting? Should grandparents ever interfere with their adult children's parenting? If so, what should that look like?**

*(Generally speaking, grandparents should support and respect their adult children's parenting. To interfere, manipulate, obstruct, or subvert, a parent's responsibility would be to disregard God's design between parents and their children. That said, if a parent abdicates their responsibility by abandonment, abuse, neglect, or some other failure to parent, then grandparents should go through the proper authorities and avenues to ensure their grandchildren are taken care of, which would likely require them to fulfil the parental role in the absence of their adult children.)*



**6. How can grandparents and their adult children pursue healthy relationships with each other, and how will that affect both the grandparents' and the parents' relationships with the grandchildren?**

*(Healthy relationships are fostered through conversations and restoration. Restoration is necessary because we all sin. But restoration is possible through confession of sin, repentance of sin, and forgiveness. When we are having conversations that have confession, repentance, and forgiveness, then gospel healing will be found. And when children see their parents and grandparents respecting and loving each other, it will encourage them to respect and love both their parents and grandparents in return.)*

**7. Beyond simply loving their grandchildren, what specific spiritual responsibilities do gospel-centered grandparents have towards their grandchildren and their family as a whole?**

**III. Gospel-Centered Grandparents Have a Responsibility in Their Role as Believers.**

**8. How can grandparents actively pray for their grandchildren and their parents in ways that are specifically gospel-centered? What practical opportunities can grandparents take and make to share their faith with their grandchildren?**

**9. What unique opportunities do grandparents have to impart biblical wisdom and spiritual heritage to the next generation, given their life experience and relationship with their grandchildren?**

**10. How can grandparents support their adult children in discipling their own children, perhaps by sharing resources, offering encouragement, or participating in family spiritual disciplines?**

## Commentary (from ESV Study Bible)

**Prov. 10:1–22:16** Proverbs of Solomon. Here begins what may be called the “proverbs proper,” individual maxims or aphorisms, after the longer wisdom poems of chs. 1–9. Often, however, individual proverbs are grouped together into small collections which, taken together, give the reader a more complete understanding of a given topic

**Prov. 17:6** Families depend on one another for their identity and joy. Both young and old should cherish their intergenerational relationships.