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**Week 4**

**The Shifting Role of Parenting**

**INTRODUCTION**

As children grow and develop their need for their parents to help them changes. If you are a parent, what is something that you miss doing with your kids when they were younger? If you don’t have children, what is something you miss doing with your own parents?

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. When children become adults it’s important for parents to step back and allow them to have responsibility for their own lives. What are some ways your parents allowed you to have the independence you needed?
2. Talk about some of your failures. What did you learn from them?
3. How is your relationship different with your parents than it was when you were younger? If you have adult children how is your relationship different with them? Is there anything you want to do to improve that relationship?
4. How often do you pray for your children? Would you consider praying scripture over them? In what ways do you think this might influence them?
5. Talk about some ways you can honor your father and mother differently than you do now. Would you be willing to put any of these into practice?

**STEPPING FORWARD**

In every relationship love is the key. This week think about your relationship with your adult children or with your parents and think up a way to inject more love into that relationship. Then, go out and make it happen.

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*

**John 13:34-35**