

# Shaping Influences and Godward Focus Review and Discussion

## *Parenting in Reference to God*

1. Shaping Influences:
  - What is a shaping influence? What are some examples?
  - What are the mistakes of denial and determinism?
  - What does it mean that our kids are responders?
  - Interact with the statement: *You will respond to influences either in reference to God or in reference to something else.*
  
2. Godward Focus:
  - What does it mean that our children are designed for worship? How do we know this?
  - What is an idol of the heart (Ezek. 14:3)? Do your children have them?
  - What is the most important calling of a parent?
  
3. Key Reminders:
  - There is no such thing as neutrality (Romans 1:19f)  
Even your two year old is making assumptions! Are those assumptions neutral?
  - The secular/sacred divide is a myth.  
[Secularists do exist, but they live in the illusion that there is a secular space.]
  - No subject can be truly understood or even make sense apart from God.  
Even mathematics depend upon God!

## Discussion Concerning Four Powerful Shaping Influences

- **Worship**
  - Corporate
  - Family: What should this look like  
Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- **Education**
  - Who is responsible for your child's education?  
[What this means and does not mean.]
  - Is your child learning to process life from the perspective of faith in God?
- **Entertainment**
- **Recreation**