

WORKSHOPS OFFERED AT THIS CONFERENCE

The National Conference workshops are designed to provide helpful information to assist you in your parenting, marriage, or leading GFI parenting classes. In addition, the workshops apply to more than one category of attendees: leaders, potential leaders and alumni parents of GFI classes. Below is a listing of typical workshops that are offered at conferences. Please note for the shorter conferences not all options will be offered.

Leadership Skill Sessions

A Sampling of the New Curriculum for Toddlers

The old *'Preparation for the Toddler Years'* class material has been redone and made into **three** brand new exciting series. See how a new generation of parents learn and how this new material is geared towards these parents. The same biblical principles, practical advice and wisdom – all in a format perfect for discipling these parents right into *Growing Kids God's Way* are here. This workshop will help you understand the new format and how to best incorporate it into your ministry.

Dealing with Baggage Parents Lug Around

Parents often come to the GFI parenting classes with pre-existing 'baggage' that must be taken into context for them to apply what they are going to learn in class. Single parents, blended families, parents who adopt children both domestically and internationally, children with learning disabilities, and the death of a spouse are just some of the unique situations that leaders may be challenged with at one time or another by parents taking your class. This workshop will help class leaders understand how to respond adequately to the questions they may encounter from families with special circumstances.

It's Not Just About Babies Anymore

Contact Moms are alumni moms who are willing to help answer parenting questions from other moms who desire help with implementing the principles taught in GFI materials. This workshop discusses the vital ministry of *Christian Family Heritage* and how it can assist GFI class leaders. If you have ever thought about becoming a Contact Mom to help others with their parenting questions, this workshop is for you.

We Used To Do It This Way, But Now.....

The culture we live in has changed and the needs of the church have changed as well. This is a new workshop updating leadership from how we do ministry at the local level to how we communicate our message. This session will also include how we recognize key leaders to how we manage the national ministry.

Workshops to Enhance Both Your Parenting and Leadership Skills

Dad to Dad, "How to be a Godly Father"

Dads need to practically live out the principles found in GFI parenting curriculum in front of their children. This workshop, led by a panel of seasoned fathers, will share ways this is possible. Thoughts on how Dad can be a strong spiritual leader in his home will be discussed as well.

Wisdom on Marriage & Motherhood: Things I Know Now That I Wish I'd Known Then

You can always see things you could have done differently once you have gained experience in an area. Come and glean from women who, through the years of their lives, have grown in wisdom and understanding in their role of wife and mother and will share those life lessons with you.

Practical Wisdom for Building a Strong, Healthy Marriage

It takes work to build a strong, healthy marriage that reflects God's glory. This workshop teaches ways for both the husband and wife to grow in love and respect for each other so they understand how to be the spouse each other needs.

How to Keep Your Child Morally Pure in a World That Isn't

It is possible to keep your children morally pure, but it takes knowledge combined with diligence and proactive planning on the part of parents. How do you encourage your daughters to dress modestly when it seems that *no one* else is, or help your sons keep his thoughts pure? This workshop will share insights on dealing with these issues and more.

Today's Technology and Your Child

Raising a moral child today is so much more difficult than it was 40 years ago. With computers, the internet, DVD's, cell phones, texting, email, UTube, Facebook, and blogs - how do parents keep their children morally pure while using today's technological toys and tools that children needs to learn how to use?

Training Energetic Preschoolers

Studies show that a child's personality is, for the most part, developed by age 3 years. Parents must not leave this development up to circumstances, environment, or simply to 'chance'. These workshop presenters are parents of five young children and will give parents many 'hands-on' practical and creative ideas on how to build Biblically-based character in preschool children.

Structure and Routine for Children of All Ages

GFI encourages parents to put their babies on a routine that brings peace and order to the family. For some reason, parents tend to give up on the routine when children turn a year old. Structure is important for children through their teen years. Children who have been raised in a family that understands their need for structure and routine throughout their lives learn to respect boundaries. This workshop will help parents get back on track in getting an appropriate routine going for their entire family.

The Funnel: Open It, Close It, When To Do Which?

This workshop provides parents and class leaders with insight and understanding on the 'funnel'. What exactly is the 'funnel'? What does it look like for differing ages of children? How does a parent get their child back in the 'funnel' when necessary, and how do they keep him there? You will learn the answers to these questions and more in this workshop.

The Key to Unlocking a Child's Heart

How do parents know when they have gotten to their child's heart? Getting to a child's heart is a process that will take place over a period of many years. Parents often miss the *KEY* that will make or break this process. Come listen to *Mom's Notes* authors and GFI National Ministry Overseer Joey Link as he revisits the power of the *Repentance, Forgiveness, and Restoration* process.

Taming the Lecture Bug

When children do something wrong, parents lecture. We all do. Do children change their behavior based on the latest lecture they received? We all know they don't. This workshop will help parents learn how they can stop lecturing their children and teach parents what they need to do instead.

Training a Child to His 'Bent'

This workshop will discuss the role that God-given temperaments play in the way a child behaves. An overview of the four main temperament types and a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of each will be discussed. Guidelines on how parents can train the temperament of each of their children will be shared.

“But Mom, Everyone Is Doing It”

Does that 'refrain' sound familiar? Even more frightening, does our response to our children sound just like the response our parents gave to us when we tried that on them? So how will you respond to the 'everyone is doing it' or worse 'her dad is an elder and she's allowed to....' - you fill in the blank. Join Gary & Anne Marie as they share how to prepare your children to handle the pressures of peers in and outside the church community.

Teaching Children to Understand the Bible

Parents often assume their children are learning this in the classes and programs they attend through church. Children need to learn how to put what is in the Bible into practice in their lives. It is best when parents take the time to show them how to accomplish this. Ways to fit this process into a family's busy schedule will be discussed. The teenage children of the workshop presenters will be sharing their thoughts and ideas as well.

Courtship, Dating, and Mating - What Works?

Courtship or dating, which is the right way? At one time or another, every parent must figure out what their family's philosophy will be as their children are reaching the age where they will develop relationships with the opposite gender with the goal of marriage in mind. Waiting until your children are teens may be too late to put a philosophy that works into practice. Joey Link was a youth pastor for 16 years. Come hear how he challenges mainstream thinking in a surprising way that will show how young people can build a foundation for a marriage that lasts.

Teaching Your Children to be ‘Money-Wise’

In today's economic crises, how do parents train their children to become financially responsible and to appreciate a penny, nickel and dime before they ever get a dollar? Guidelines for parents on how to raise children with appreciation for, and the responsibility of money so they can be good stewards in financial matters will be discussed.

Tips on Parenting Through the Middle Years

The Middle Years transition is tricky for both parents and their children. This workshop will explain why that is. Children in 5th – 8th grade are in the 'Middle Years'. Practical, proven guidelines and advice will be shared by parents who have successfully raised 5 children through this process.

Tips for Coaching Your Teens

In *Growing Kids God's Way*, parents learn during the teen years they are in the 'coaching' phase of parenting. Being a coach means you don't rule by your authority. It is tough for parents to know when to step in and deal with their teen and when to let them learn from the voice of experience. How do parents know when to give a teenager freedom? How can they encourage their teens to embrace Godly character? Find the answers to these questions and more during this workshop session.