

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE FOR THE WEEK OF 8/22/10

Series: MULLIGAN'S (I)

Message: Can I Take a Parenting Mulligan?

Scripture: II Samuel 18

1. Ice-Breaker: What are your best and worst sport's moments as you look back on your life?

2. What did Frank mean when he said, "*With forgiveness does not come a mulligan.*"?

Read I John 1:9.

What does divine forgiveness mean?

Read Galatians 6:7

What does divine forgiveness not mean?

3. Can you think of a time in your life when you sinned, God forgave you, but you still were left with the painful consequences of that sin?

4. Frank used the analogy of juggling lots of balls in our busy lives. There's work, school, hobbies and sports, church, a batch of other responsibilities, and family. The analogy claimed that all the balls are rubber balls except "family." That ball is glass, and dropping that ball can have terrible consequences. Do you agree with the analogy or not?

5. In II Samuel 18 we meet a broken down King David as he sobs in grief and regret over the death of his son Absalom. What lessons does God have for you in our reflection on this tragic story?

6. Which of the three ways that we were challenged to be present in our kids' lives do you/did you find the greatest challenge?

a. Your kids need you physically present!

b. Your kids need you emotionally present!

c. Your kids need you spiritually present!

7. If your kids are now out of the house, how can you still be a positive presence in their lives? If you never had kids, how can you still be a positive presence in the lives of some kids?