



SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 4 August 7, 2022
"King Richard"



OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for being the perfect loving parent and we thank you for preserving Paul's ancient text on love. Father, you know how difficult parenting can be in the 21st century, so forgive us when we get it wrong with our children. Teach us how to be better parents and to love our children like you love us. We pray this in the powerful and matchless name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIV)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Ephesians 4:2 (NIV)

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Philippians 2:3 (NIV)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

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“Asbury at the Movies: King Richard”

INTRODUCTION

Armed with a clear vision and a brazen 78-page plan, Richard Williams is determined to write his daughters, Venus and Serena, into history. Training on Compton, California's neglected tennis courts--rain or shine--the girls are shaped by their father's unyielding commitment and their mother's balanced perspective and keen intuition, defying the seemingly insurmountable odds and prevailing expectations laid before them.

Like all of us, Richard Williams had strengths and flaws in his character. But one thing you cannot criticize him for is his love of his children. His love demonstrates a few of the virtues that the Apostle Paul instructs us about love. Love is patient – we choose to move at the other persons pace and not require them to move at ours. Love protects – we always look out for the best interest of our children even if they don't agree. Love is kind – we loan someone our strength rather than reminding them of their weakness.

QUESTIONS

1. Did you see the movie “King Richard?” What are your thoughts on the movie?
2. Read Ephesians 4:2 and Philippians 2:3 on page 1. These passages remind us that humility is a core Christian value. What does pride masquerade as in you—confidence, intelligence, fashion, sarcasm, a commitment to excellence, something else?
3. A parent's behavior (not advice) determines if their child wants to be like them or with them once they are free to choose for themselves. Does that statement resonate with you more as a parent or as a son/daughter?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 on page 1. Which of these characteristics of love stands out to you? Why? Did your parents demonstrate any of these characteristics to you when you were growing up? Which ones?
5. Were your parents more inclined to loan you their strength or remind you of your weaknesses? As a parent, which one are you more inclined to do?

FINAL APPLICATION

What is one characteristic of love that you can demonstrate to someone this week?