

THRIVE!

LESSON 6A

3 LEVELS OF THINKING



THE GOAL OF THIS LESSON

To learn about the three levels of thinking. You'll feel empowered to help your children move to Level 2 thinking in general and, in particular, think through the morning routines. Young people will understand what responsibility is and how to ask different questions about life.

WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH THIS LESSON

- You'll be able to practically define and teach responsibility to your child using the Three Levels of Thinking.
- You'll feel excited about this new way to train children to be responsible.
- You'll have a new way to approach morning routines to help children think responsibly.

3 Levels Of Thinking

STARTING STRONG

Parents

Help Kids Think Outside Themselves

When speaking of the end times Paul shares in 2 Timothy 3:2 that, "People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy." Notice the self-focused tendencies. In some homes children are inadvertently encouraged to primarily think about their own welfare, having fun, and pleasing themselves. In fact, some parents believe that making their children happy is the key to being good parents and raising well adjusted adults.

God has a different plan. It's all about giving and thinking and caring about others. In fact, true blessings come when kids learn to contribute. Doing chores, cleaning even when they didn't make the mess, and looking for ways to help not only increase a child's thoughtfulness, but also prepare that child for success in the future.

Young People

Think Bigger in the Small Things

It's amazing how many lessons can be learned in the daily tasks of life. Regularly take a moment to ask yourself, "What can I learn in this situation?" and you will find very important treasures every day. For example, if you get up in the morning and make your bed, you're learning self-discipline. If you are gracious with an annoying sibling you are learning patience. If you give up your agenda when your parent interrupts you to tell you to do something, then you are learning cooperation. All of these life skills are hidden in your daily agenda. One of the keys to your success is to seize these opportunities as practice sessions in order to build the internal strength to face life. When you develop qualities like self discipline, patience, and cooperation you'll be a much more effective parent yourself someday, or manager, or employer or employee. This is big. Get it now and you'll grow into leadership, maturity, and success. Use life as a training ground and you'll grow faster than you ever imagined.

A Parent's Prayer for Joy

Lord, I want your joy to flow through me. Where I need to be healed, empowered, and changed, I invite you to do that deeper work. I don't want to have an attitude that looks forward to joy someday. I know that you enable me to experience your joy today, in the imperfect, within the challenges, as I go through the difficulties of life. Please teach me how to rely on you more for that joy. I know that the joy of the Lord is my strength, so please give that to me. I want to be an outpost of your joy so that others can experience you in the midst of their struggle. Sometimes my child gets angry, confused, discouraged, or selfish. Lord, please help me not only address those issues, but do so with such confidence that I can reveal your supernatural joy to my child. I know that you want me to rejoice always. Please help me to do that today and experience the amazing joy that you want for me. Amen.

3 Levels Of Thinking

Taking Notes During the Video

1) Level 1 - Thinking about self, what I want and what I'm doing

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:3-4

2) Level 2 - Asks different questions about life that demonstrate responsibility

3) Level 3 - What is God doing in this situation?

Moving children from Level 1 to Level 2 thinking