

## **Session 7**

# **Discussion Questions**

- 1.** As parents become more aware of the work of the conscience in a child's life, how might it affect their parenting? How might it affect the children?
- 2.** When helping children deal with unfair situations, parents often encourage their kids to stand up for themselves or ignore the problem. How might 1 Peter 2:19-21 provide an additional solution?
- 3.** Modeling a clear conscience is one way to teach the benefits to children. Describe a time when you responded to the internal prompting of the conscience to do what's right even when it was hard. How might a parent share these kinds of stories with children?
- 4.** Teaching children to follow instructions is part of family life. How can a parent use the instruction process to strengthen the conscience?
- 5.** Read Acts 24:16. Paul talks about the importance of a clear conscience. What does it mean to have a clear conscience?
- 6.** What are some ways parents typically praise their children? How might you adjust the way you praise or affirm your child in order to encourage conscience development?
- 7.** How can you use the child's natural attraction to heroes to raise the awareness level of the conscience?

# NEWS ARTICLE:



## From Tragedy to Success to Ministry

GAP, PA — Just in her mid-twenties, Anne Beiler lost her baby daughter in an accident. The tragedy so upset her that she pulled away from everything including her husband. He asked her to go to counseling with him at their church and reluctantly, she agreed. Their marriage improved along with Anne's relationship with the Lord.

To help out their family finances, Anne opened a small stand at the Downingtown, Pennsylvania Farm Market.

She sold baked goods of various kinds but the favorite of all was the handmade pretzels. It wasn't long before Auntie Anne's Pretzels became famous with small shops set up in malls and airports around the world.

But Auntie Anne wasn't content to make money by expanding her business. She gave away much of the money she made. In fact, in 1999 she created the Angela Foundation named after her deceased daughter. Every year money is

given to help missionaries and charities all over the world. She also has a counseling center in Gap, Pennsylvania to help families and individuals face life's challenges with God's strength.

Auntie Anne is a good example of a person who experienced pain in life and turned it into compassion to help others.

## TEACHING CHILDREN ABOUT THE CONSCIENCE

### QUESTIONS:

- Anne became rich with her pretzel business but she used her money to help others. What prompted her to do that?
- How does a painful situation help a person become more compassionate and care about others?
- How do you think Anne felt when she was able to help other people who were hurting?

### SUGGESTION:

Talk about ways that the conscience prompts a person to think about others and not just oneself.

### FURTHER QUESTIONS:

- What happens to a person who is generous and gives to others?
- What are some simple things we could do to show others that we care?

### BIBLE STORY:

- Read Matthew 20:29-34
- Why do you think the crowds told the men to be quiet?
- Why do you think the blind men were calling out?
- How was Jesus different than the crowds of people?
- How does compassion relate to the conscience?