

# Taking Responsibility

## Family Guardrails

Genesis 1:27-29, 3:8-13

**FAMILY GUARDRAIL:** A PREDETERMINED PERSONAL OR FAMILY VALUE THAT BECOMES A MATTER OF CONSCIENCE.

### THE STORY OF IRRESPONSIBILITY

### A LIFE OF TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

*4 areas to take responsibility*

- ❶ **RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT YOU THINK.**  
(2 Corinthians 10:5, Proverbs 23:7 NKJV)
- ❷ **RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT YOU SAY.**  
(Proverbs 18:21, 12:18, James 3:5)
- ❸ **RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PATH.**  
(Proverbs 27:12, 4:25)
- ❹ **RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT YOU REAP.**  
(Galatians 6:5-8, Luke 16:10, Matthew 12:33-37)

# REALife Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

1. What are some quirks that are easy to spot in other people's lives, but are difficult to spot in your own life?
2. Read Genesis 1:27-29. Why would taking increased responsibility result in the need for fewer rules? Read Genesis 3:8-13. Where there is blame, there is shame. What is your best strategy in the "blame game"? (How have you effectively avoided responsibility?)
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:58. According to this verse what is one of the important responsibilities of a Christ Follower? Why? How does this encourage or motivate you?
4. 2 Corinthians 5:10. Who are Christ followers accountable to? How does knowing this affect the way you live your life? Are you more motivated by the desire to be with Christ or by the fear of judgment?
5. Read Exodus 32:22-24. In what ways did Aaron abdicate his leadership? Who does he blame for his lack of responsibility? How prone are you to taking responsibility when your behavior is less than admirable?
6. Read John 5:6-7. What is the attitude of the invalid in these verses? Why had he been by the pool for a long time? Why does Jesus ask the man if he wants to get well? Describe a time when you may have said "no"? How about "yes"?
7. Read Psalm 32:3-5. What does this tell you about the conviction you feel when blaming others for your wrong doing? Why does that happen? How are you able to move past that conviction?
8. What can you do this week to own your share of responsibility instead of focusing on the shortcomings of others or making excuses?
9. How can we pray for you to take responsibility of your life?

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