

The Four Priorities Chapter 19

Book by John Tolson

Facilitator Guide by Reclamation Church

Chapter 19: The Parenting Gift of Confidence

Note: The timelines below are only a guide, as well as the questions to ask. Make this your own and go where the Holy Spirit leads you. Take your time and, when needed, break this chapter into several meetings.

**Open
(10 min.)**

Spend a few minutes each week catching up with one another, then share prayer requests.

Do: Open in prayer.

**Recap
(5 min.)**

Briefly give a summary of your meeting last week. We discussed:

- The importance of having a parent help to shape a child's identity.
 - Other contributing factors to one's sense of identity come from peers and culture.
 - To help one's sense of identity, we can love them unconditionally, affirm their worth, acknowledge their unique God-given characteristics, and appreciate their presence with us.
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**Opening –
(10 min)**

Ask: How would you describe your own confidence (as a child and now as an adult) in being able to test your ideas, values, and relationships without the fear of failure?

Say: On the next pages, we will look at **five areas** that help to build confidence. They are Engage, Explore, Explain, Empower, and Encourage.

**5 Es,
pgs. 185-188
(25 min.)**

Discuss your findings from this portion of the chapter.

Ask:

- Which of the 5 Es did you experience from a parent growing up? Explain.
 - If you are a parent with children, which of the 5 Es do/did you find it harder to practice? Explain.
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Continued.

- Did you have predictable or unpredictable parents growing up, and how did that impact your confidence? Explain.
- If you are a parent, do you *think* you were predictable or unpredictable in your parenting style, and how did that impact your children?
- On page 189, it describes an “Open and Closed System” of parental authority. Discuss your experience growing up.
- If you are a parent, which system do/did you use and how did it impact your children?

**Take Action
(30 min.)**

Read through and discuss the questions at the end of the chapter.

**Close
(5 min.)**

Homework:

Read Chapter 20 (and referenced scriptures in the Bible) and come prepared with questions you might have from this chapter, as well as completing the end-of-chapter questions.

Close in prayer.