

## **I am My Upbringing: Moving Beyond Family Identity**

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### **Workshop Description**

*Many come to us with deep-seated identity issues that are bound up in their upbringing. They see “family identity” as inescapably shaping who they are and what they do. This workshop will look at relevant passages to help people biblically examine their upbringing and its effect on their lives.*

### **Different Versions of Family Identity**

Healthy family identity

Unhealthy family view

Generational sins/family curses

Ex. 20:4-6; 34:7

#### **I. Basic Observations about Family Identity**

- A. Adam, original sin, and the transmission of a sinful nature
  
- B. Our families do in fact have a major influence on our thinking and behavior patterns
  
- C. We are not helpless victims of our parents’/family’s sins, doomed to repeat them

#### **II. Biblical Principles to Consider**

- A. “God visits the iniquity to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generation of those who hate him”  
Ex. 20:4-6; 34:6-7; Num. 14:18; Deut. 5:9-10
  
- B. The soul that sins will die  
Jer. 31:29-30  
Ezek. 18:1-20
  
- C. New family, new father  
1 Pet. 1:14-17
  
- D. Redeemed from your futile way of life handed down from your forefathers  
1 Pet. 1:18-19