

THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Ephesians 6:1-4

Lesson #39

Child Training

05/13/2018

“Parents often talk about the younger generation as if they didn’t have anything to do with it.”

Haim Ginott
(Teacher, writer)



Ephesians 6

“¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. ⁴ And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

#1 A healthy marriage is the best context for effective parenting.

#2 A father’s presence and headship is an important factor in child development.

2

First rule in child development:

Don’t abuse children.

- Parents are the first and most powerful **mentors** for emerging human beings.
- Physical and **emotional** neglect is the most common form of child abuse.
- Healthy **bonding** with parents is a key to nurturing children to maturity.
 - **Caring** without overly controlling
 - **Empathizing** without excusing
 - **Protecting** without being a surrogate
 - **Affirming** without inflating
 - **Consistency** without rigidity

3

Attachment Autonomy Achievement Altruism

Proper bonding with parents	Friendship Cooperation Intimacy Respect Trust Love	Self-control Confident Assertive Responsible Independence	Successful Problem solver Creative Resilient Persistent Motivated	Caring Compassionate Empathetic
Chasing after (fear of abandonment)	Seeking attention Craving affection Clinging	Rebellious Reckless Manipulative Bullies Passive Aggressive	Over achiever Workaholic Delinquent skills Cheating Overly competitive Risk seeking	Selfish Over indulgent Co-dependent Self-abasing
Withdrawal from (fear of attachment)	Alienation Antisocial Rejected Lonely Suspicious	Fals confidence Being bullied Easily misled Little self-control Irresponsible	Under achiever Failure oriented Unmotivated Lazy Avoid risks Fears change	Narcissistic Hedonistic Anti-social Psychopathic Exploitative

4

“Children are our second chance to have a great parent-child relationship.”

Laura Schlessinger



5

First rule in child development:
Don't abuse children.

Ephesians 6:4

"And, fathers, do not **provoke** your children **to anger**; but bring them up in the **discipline** and **instruction** of the Lord."

- **Paul's first concern is to avoid abuse.**
- "**provoke to anger**" - "keep needling", "to taunt".
- "**discipline**" - "correct transgressions".
- "**instruction**" - "words of encouragement" and / or "admonition". *Life coach along the way.*

6

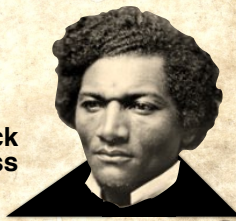
Child abuse then and now

- "**Patria potestas**" - the father's absolute power (in ancient Rome) to keep or throw away his children.
- "**Judeo Christian**" principles have had a large role in shaping our modern conscience regarding children.
- **Delinquent parents** (insensitive, verbal rejection, neglect, physical abuse, etc.) **tend to form delinquent kids.**
- **30% of abused / neglected children grow up to be abusers** (as compared to 5% from healthy homes).
- **The USA had no "child abuse" laws until the 1960s.**
 - Nearly 1 million children are abused in the U.S. annually.
 - CPS protects more than 3 million children annually.
 - Neglect is the most common form of maltreatment.

7

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

Frederick Douglass



8

Second rule in child development:

Don't let the child
control the process.

Proverbs 22:6

"**Train up a child in the way he should go**, even when he is old he will not depart from it."

- "**train**" - "to prop up", "to build boundaries"
- "**the way he should go**" - "according to his way"

9

Second rule in child development:

Don't let the child
control the process.



Mistake #1 -

Children are monsters
"Strict discipline is best."



Mistake #2 -

Children are innocent
"Minimal control is best."

10

Second rule in child development:

Don't let the child
control the process.

Children are a part of a "fallen world" with **selfish impulses that need to be managed** in the context of the Gospel.



11

Second rule in child development:

Don't let the child
control the process.

- Sin (selfishness) is not a learned behavior.
- Sin can be managed but not removed.
- Sin leads to respect of the Gospel message.
- Parents are to help a child develop a conscience, wisdom, and Godly character.

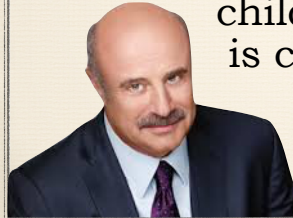


12

Second rule in child development:

Don't let the child
control the process.

“Always try to avoid conflict with your children but if there is conflict never let them win.”



Dr. Phil McGraw

13

Second rule in child development:

Don't let the child
control the process.

Proverbs 13:24

“He who **withholds his rod** hates his son, but he who loves him **disciplines him diligently.**”

- “**withholds his rod**” - “refuses to discipline or protect and thus comfort” (Ps.23:4)
- “**disciplines diligently**” - “persistently seeks out to correct.”
- Be **consistent** and **persistent.**

14

Third rule in child development:

Be **sensitive to each child's spirit, needs, and development.**

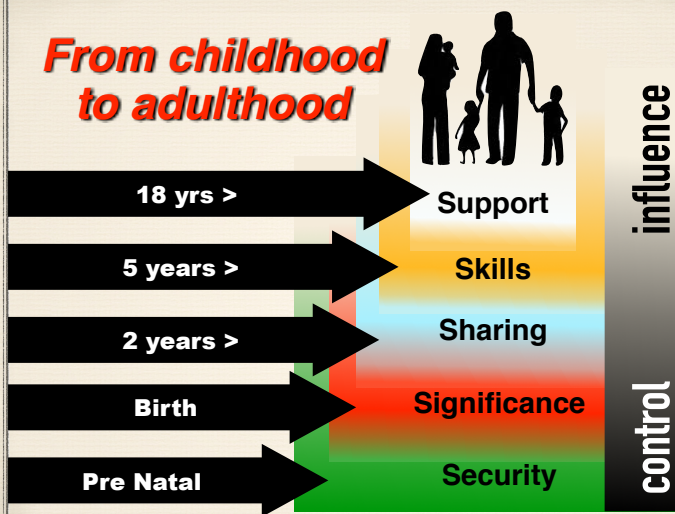
Colossians 3:21

“Fathers, do not **exasperate** your children, that they may not **lose heart.**”

- In Colossians Paul does not mention the need for instruction but only forbids abuse.
- “**exasperate**” - “provoke”, “stir up”.
- “**lose heart**” - “discourage”, “to crush the spirit”.

15

From childhood to adulthood



16

4 types of parenting



Body guards
Keep kids away from the water (and the world).



Life guards
Rescue those who fall in.

Swimming Instructors
Jump in and teach them to swim.



Spectators
Let them go their own way.



95% of what a child learns is through direct experience.

17



Fourth rule in child development:
Teach **Respect for authority**

Ephesians 6

"¹ Children, **obey** your parents **in the Lord**, for **this is right**. ² **Honor your father and mother** (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ that it **may be well with you**, and that you may **live long** on the earth."

1. The point - **Obedience.**
2. The principle - **Authority.**
(Divine and human)
3. The promise - **Blessing.**

20

"A child who is allowed to be disrespectful to his parents will not have true respect for anyone."

Billy Graham

21

"There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children, One of these is roots, the other, wings."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

22