

PARENTING BY THE BOOK

DISCIPLING YOUR CHILD

1. REVIEW

A. LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES: COMMAND + COMPEL + CONFIRM

1. DISCIPLINARY COMMUNICATION MUST COMMAND.

- a. GOOD LEADERS, WHEREVER THEY ARE FOUND (WORKPLACE, ARMED SERVICES, SPORTS, CHURCH, OR HOME), ARE MASTERS OF LEADERSHIP SPEECH... SPEECH THAT IS:
 - b. CLEAR ... UNAMBIGUOUS, PLAIN, AND FREE OF ABSTRACTIONS.
 - c. CONCISE... ECONOMICAL.
 - d. COMMANDING... AUTHORITATIVE AND ASSERTIVE.
 - 1) DOES NOT MEAN LOUD AND ANGRY
 - e. NOTE: MOST PARENTS THINK THAT CONSEQUENCES ARE PLAN A... BUT, THEY ARE ACTUALLY PLAN B... CONSEQUENCES ARE THE BACKUP.
 - f. PARENTS WHO RELY EXCLUSIVELY ON CONSEQUENCES ARE FOREVER DEALING WITH SOME PROBLEM OR ANOTHER.
 - 1) PARENTS WHO USE CONSEQUENCES AS A BACKUP TO LEADERSHIP SPEECH MAKE LOTS OF PROGRESS AND USUALLY FEEL LITTLE PARENTING STRESS.

2. DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES MUST COMPEL.

- a. COMPELLING CONSEQUENCES CREATE PERMANENT... DECIDEDLY UNPLEASANT MEMORIES.

2. PRINCIPLE 3 – CONFIRMING CONSISTENCY

A. DISCIPLINARY CONSISTENCY MUST CONFIRM THE PARENT'S DETERMINATION TO FURTHER THE BEST INTERESTS OF THEIR CHILD.

- 1. Ephesians 6:4 (NASB) Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

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B. IN MY OPINION, WHEN PARENTS RAISE CHILDREN ACCORDING TO A PARADIGM (AN EXAMPLE, PATTERN, OR MODEL) OTHER THAN THE BIBLICAL PARADIGM, THEY WILL MOST OFTEN:

1. EXPERIENCE AN INCREASE OF PROBLEMS
2. BECOME EXASPERATED
3. EXASPERATE THEIR CHILDREN.
 - a. THE EXASPERATION PAUL WAS TALKING ABOUT PPREVENTS DISCIPLESHIP.
 - 1) NOTE: PAUL DID NOT SAY THAT PARENTING WOULD BE FREE OF EXASPERATION.
 - 2) HE SAID THAT IF YOU, A PARENT, ARE EXASPERATED WITH, AND THEREFORE EXASPERATING TO, YOUR CHILDREN... YOU ARE NOT BRINGING THEM UP IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH GOD'S DESIGN.
4. PAUL WAS SAYING, THAT EXASPERATION CAN BE AVOIDED IF WE BRING UP OUR CHILDREN "IN THE TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION OF THE LORD".

C. IN EPHESIANS 6:4 PAUL IS TALKING ABOUT DISCIPLESHIP

1. JUST AS PAUL WAS JESUS' DISCIPLE... SO A CHILD IS TO BE THEIR PARENTS DISCIPLE.

D. GOD'S WORD: IS CONSISTENT AND COHERENT

1. A COHERENT, NEVER CHANGING POINT OF VIEW IS A PREREQUISITE FOR CONSISTENT PARENTING.
2. THE ONLY COHERENT, NEVER CHANGING POINT OF VIEW FOR CONSISTENT PARENTING OF CHILDREN IS FOUND IN SCRIPTURE.
3. IF YOU WANT TO BE CONSISTENT AND COHERENT IN YOUR PARENTING... SUBSCRIBE TO GOD'S WORD.
4. MANY OF TODAY'S PARENTS HAVE NO CLEAR POINT OF VIEW (DIRECTION), SO THEY RELY ON METHODS (POSTMODERN PSYCHOLOGICAL PARENTING TECHNIQUES) LIKE "TIME-OUT", COUNTING 1-2-3, ARGUING, AND OTHER BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION CONSEQUENCES.
5. In so doing, THEY PUT THE HORSE BEFORE THE CART (CONSEQUENCES BEFORE DISCIPLING) WHICH LEAD TO INCONSISTENCY AND EXASPERATION.

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6. FOR PARENTS TO BE **CONSISTENT** IN THEIR **APPROACH**, IT IS **IMPORTANT TO BE CONSISTENT IN THEIR ATTITUDE... THE WAY THEY LEAD WITH AUTHORITY.**
- a. **John 14:3-6 (NASB)** "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. "And you know **the way** where I am going." **Thomas** *said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, **how do we know the way?**" **Jesus** *said to him, "**I am the way**, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.
 - b. **Proverbs 22:6 (NASB)** Train up a child in **the way** he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.
 - c. **Psalms 37:5-6 (NASB)** Commit **your way** to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday.
 - d. **Joshua 1:8 (NASB)** "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall **meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful **to do** according to all that is written in it; for **then** you will make **your way** prosperous, and **then** you will have success.
 - e. **THE CONSISTENCY OF YOUR VALUES, CONFIRMS YOUR VALUES, YOUR VISION, AND YOUR DETERMINATION TO STAY THE COURSE FOR YOUR CHILD'S BENEFIT IN ANY AND ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.**
 - 1) **YOU CANNOT BE SUPREMELY CONFIDENT THAT YOU ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING UNLESS YOU ARE SUPREMELY CONFIDENT IN THE SOURCE THAT INFORMS YOUR POINT OF VIEW!**
 - 2) **I BELIEVE that the BIBLE IS THE ONLY SOURCE THAT CAN INSPIRE THAT CONFIDENCE.**
7. **CONSISTENT BEHAVIOR: CONFIRMS A PARENT'S PURPOSE, VISION, AND DETERMINATION.**
- a. **BEING CONSISTENT DEMONSTRATES TO CHILDREN THAT NOTHING THEY DO WILL KNOCK THEIR PARENT OFF COURSE.**
 - 1) **A PARENT'S CHILD-REARING "AIM" SHOULD NEVER WAIVER FROM THE DIRECTION THEY WANT THEIR CHILD "TO GO".**
 - 2) **Proverbs 22:6 (NASB)** Train up a child **in the way he should go**, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.
 - 3) **Psalms 127:4 (NASB)** Like **arrows** in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.
 - i. **A WARRIOR "AIMS" HIS ARROWS AT THE TARGET.**

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- ii. GENERALLY SPEAKING, PARENTS SHOULD “AIM” THEIR CHILDREN TOWARD THE TARGET OF GODLINESS.
- iii. EVERY CHRISTIAN PARENT’S ROLE SHOULD BE TO “AIM” EACH OF THEIR CHILDREN TO GOD’S PATH... HIS ‘WAY’.
 - 1. NOT, THE PARENT’S “WAY”.
- iv. THE TARGET...
 - 1. Colossians 1:10 (NASB) so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- v. DO YOU HAVE SPECIFIC “TARGETS” THAT YOU ARE CONSCIOUSLY AND CONSISTENTLY ‘AIMING’ YOUR CHILD TOWARD?
 - 1. DISCUSS... YES OR NO
 - 2. HOW WILL THIS SECTION OF TODAY’S LESSON AFFECT YOUR PARENTING?