



Parenting
Ben Foote
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// Bible References: Psalms 5:3; 10:17; 34:15; 94:9; 1 John 5:14; John 3:16; Eph 3:17-19; Matt 28:18; Prov 22:6

// Community Question:

Find a meme/picture that best describes what you feel it is like to parent, then share and discuss.

// Discussion Questions

1. Read Psalms 5:3, 34:15, 10:17, 34:15; 1 John 5:14. Pastor Ben emphasizes the importance of giving our children full attention like God provides to us. How can we, as parents, better provide our children with undivided attention? What are some practical ways you can minimize distractions or make a conscious effort to be more attentive to your children's needs?
2. Read Eph 3:17-19. Pastor Ben encourages parents to follow God's example and show affection by telling their children that they love them, including specific reasons. Why is it important to express specific reasons why we love our children, and how can we incorporate this into our daily lives? What are three specific qualities or actions you admire in your child that you can share with them this week?
3. Read Matthew 28:18. In the sermon Ben described biblical authority as empowering, truthful, and providing love and safety even amid discipline. What are some situations in which you could effectively demonstrate biblical authority in the lives of your children or in other similar relationships? How might the demonstration of biblical authority help our kids or others know more about the love of God?
4. Read Proverbs 22:6. Pastor Ben compares this scripture to a trainer at a gym who holds authority over their clients by providing guidance (the plan), teaching, and encouragement. Likewise, parents are encouraged to train their children in the way they should go. How can you implement guidance (the plan), teaching, and encouragement in your parenting and daily interactions with your children?
5. Pastor Ben encourages parents to ensure that they have their own lives in order before trying to set their house in order. How can we evaluate and improve our own lives to have a more positive impact on our children? What is one aspect of your own life you feel needs improvement, and how can you work towards making a positive change?

// Challenge: In what order would you rank your ability to emulate these three characteristics of God in your own life? (Attention, Affection, and Authority) Which one could you focus on to improve this week?