



WEEK FOUR

ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS • LUKE 24:13-35

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ASK THIS:

WHAT HAVE YOU DISCOVERED ABOUT GOD THAT SURPRISED YOU?



REMEMBER THIS:

“Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.” PHILIPPIANS 2:3, NIrV



DO THIS:



While in the car ask your preteen, “What is a way you put others first? Have you ever noticed someone putting you first? How did that make you feel?”



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PUTTING OTHERS FIRST BY GIVING UP WHAT YOU THINK YOU DESERVE

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### HOW TO RAISE A JERK

By Reggie Joiner

Most parents don't set out to raise kids who become jerks. But parenting kids who have a mind of their own can be confusing.

Some people say too many who work hard at building children's self-esteem are raising kids who will exhibit a lifestyle of entitlement and egotism. Other specialists say those who talk about children being innately bad are raising a generation that feels inferior and insignificant. Every expert has an opinion and it's hard to know where the line actually is. Many promote their agenda by pushing the opposing opinion to the extreme.

One of the keys to parenting with balance is helping your children develop an attitude of humility. Every child has the potential to grow up and understand why it's important to "put others first." There is just a fine line between raising kids who have a healthy self-esteem and kids who are too egotistical.

A life of arrogance that goes unchecked can result in a sad and lonely existence for someone, and frankly there are enough self-centered people around. How does someone develop an overinflated sense of self-worth and entitlement?

Here are a few ideas to help you unintentionally, but effectively, raise a jerk:

- Protect them from the consequences of their own mistakes.
- Make sure you do whatever they can do for themselves.

- Keep them away from anyone who thinks differently than they do.
- Try to give them everything they want.
- Tell them over and over again you just want them to be happy.
- Convince them that they are more special than other kids.
- Always take their side when they get in trouble with their teacher at school.
- Always take their side whenever they are in a conflict with a friend.
- Keep insisting that they are the best player on the team.
- Don't give them consistent opportunities to help or serve other people.
- Never require them to do chores.
- Reinforce their prejudices about people from different cultures or backgrounds.
- Make your relationship with them more important than your relationship with your spouse.
- Rarely express genuine gratitude to those who help you.
- Teach them to talk more than they listen.
- Never let them hear you say, "I was wrong. I am sorry."

Maybe you can add a few ideas of your own . . . on how to raise a jerk.

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