

Getting better at loving: Our Kids part 2

Christian Parenting Goal: to create Jesus following,
independently functioning, adults

1 John 5:3 This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

Joyful obedience out of _____
Vs _____

Grudging obedience out of _____ (punishment)

In getting better at loving our kids, we need to practice

1. Discipline

a) Discipline is correction driven by _____.

Proverbs 3:12 because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

b) Discipline isn't something you do ___ your child, but
___ your child

Hebrews 12:9-11

Punishment: payback, suffering _____ controls child

Discipline: training and correcting _____ controls child

Discipline patterns:

Set the expectation

Child obeys:

Praise and affirmation

Child disobeys:

consequence-> apology ->
restoration and affection

Reinforcement of expectation:

Teachable moments after conflict has passed

2. Communication

James 1:19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

Proverbs 18:21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Stuff that hurts communication:

* _____ *time * _____ parent *fatigue *busyness

* _____ words *nuclear _____

Stuff that helps communication:

*Modeling *Eye contact *Guarded times/places:

Five of the most important things to teach our kids

1. Teach Them to _____ Well

1 Peter 2:21-23 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Romans 5:3-5 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Life is hard, but God is _____!

Life is unjust, but God is _____.

2. Teach them how to _____ their faith in Jesus

How to develop good spiritual habits

Childish Faith	Childlike faith
Good Christians don't have pain and disappointment	God uses our pain and disappointment to make us more like Jesus
God wants to make us happy	God wants to make us holy
God always answers prayers positively	God answers with no or wait
Faith will help us to always understand what God is doing	Faith helps us understand God's sovereignty
Good Christians are always strong	Our strength is in admitting our weakness

3. Teach Them to _____ Their Lives Wisely

Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,

Luke 16:10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

4. Teach Them to _____ Good from Evil

1 Peter 1:15-16 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

5. Teach Them to Live _____ Lives

Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

15 more exasperators: (Don't do these things)

11. Give no time warnings.
12. Try to be their buddy.
13. Withhold firm discipline and proper training.
14. Discipline inconsistently/use different punishments for the same offense.
15. Are weak with your authority. Fall to constant repetition of a question
16. Consistently believe the worst of them.
17. Do not listen to them.
18. Continually criticize them.
19. Communicate to them that they are unwanted.
20. Use empty threats.
21. Never communicate your approval of them.
22. Neglect them.
23. Overindulge them.
24. Reward pouting, anger, or disrespect.



1. Do you remember being disciplined as a child? Share a memorable discipline you received!
2. Read Hebrews 12:9-11. Looking back at your childhood, can you think of a painful discipline that you now realize produced a good result?
3. What is the difference between punishment and discipline?
4. What does it mean to discipline in love? What other way could a parent discipline their child?
5. Why is consistency in parenting so important AND so difficult?
6. Proverbs 18:21 says, "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit." How can our words mean life (or death) to our children? Can you remember an example of someone (parent or not) speaking life-giving words to you as a child?
7. Some things that hurt good communication are: media, time, distraction, fatigue, busyness. Which do you struggle with the most? How do you see it affecting your relationship with your children? What do you need to do to change that in order to improve communication with your kids?
8. In order to help our children become independently functioning followers of Christ, we need to be models of what this looks like. How do we show them what it means to...
 - ...suffer well? (1 Peter 2:21-24, Romans 5:3-5)
 - ...grow in their faith? (2 Thessalonians 1:3, Luke 2:52)
 - ...manage their lives wisely? (Colossians 3:23, Luke 16:10)
 - ...discern good from evil? (1 Peter 1:15-16, Hebrews 5:14)
 - ...live grace-filled lives? (Ephesians 2:8-10, 1 Peter 1:13)
9. Look over the list of exasperators and discuss how those actions might exasperate or frustrate a child. What positive action can we take to avoid these behaviours?

What will you do this week to bless and speak words of life into the children that God has put in your life?

Resources:

www.fotf.ca (Focus on the Family)	Raising Your Kids without Raising your Bloodpressure: Rick Warren video based study
www.cpyu.org (Center for Parent Youth Understanding)	Dare to Discipline
www.Keysforkids.org	5 Love Languages for Kids
www.youversion.com	Power of a Praying Parent
www.xxxchurch.com	Creative Correction
http://www.1.k9webprotection.com/	The Bible App for kids
http://www.x3watch.com	The Action Bible
http://www.covenanteyes.com	AWANA Bible club
http://www.safeeyes.com	Steve Green's Hide 'Em in your Heart
http://www.bsecure.com/	VeggieTales
http://www.netnanny.com	What's In the Bible
http://www.everaccountable.com	Bringing Up Boys
The Jesus Storybook Bible (Sally Lloyd Jones)	
Growing Kids God's Way	
Shepherding A Child's Heart	



Love-O-LUTION!

Getting Better at Loving: Our Kids (Part 2)