

PARENTING BY THE BOOK
TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

1. "IF I NEVER HAD A PROBLEM, I WOULDN'T KNOW THAT GOD COULD SOLVE THEM... I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT FAITH IN GOD COULD DO"

A. **PROBLEMS ARE OPPORTUNITIES IN DISGUISE!**

1. WHEN YOU CHANGE THE WAY YOU LOOK AT THINGS, THE THINGS YOU LOOK AT CHANGE"

2. **REVIEW:**

A. **THE GOAL OF THIS SERIES IS TO HELP PARENTS TEACH CHILDREN, BY THEIR WORDS AND BY THEIR ACTIONS, TO FOLLOW SCRIPTURAL INSTRUCTIONS WHEN RESPONDING (NOT REACTING) TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE WRONGED OR OFFENDED THEM... ESPECIALLY THEIR SIBLINGS.**

1. THIS SERIES IS **NOT** LIMITED TO **FAMILIES WITH MULTIPLE CHILDREN.**

B. **SATAN'S PRIMARY ATTACK IS AGAINST THE FAMILY (GENESIS 3).**

1. **WHY?**

a. **IN ATTACKING THE FAMILY SATAN IS ATTACKING GOD... BY ATTACKING HIS PLAN.**

b. **BECAUSE... BY GOD'S DESIGN THE FAMILY IS THE BASIC UNIT OF SOCIETY**

1) **DESTROY THE FAMILY... AND SOCIETY IS DESTROYED!**

c. **LIST SPIRITUAL ATTACKS (WAR) ON THE CHRISTIAN AND SECULAR FAMILY:**

1) **DIVORCE**

2) **ABSENTEE FATHERS (85% OF ALL CHILDREN THAT EXHIBIT BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS COME FROM FATHERLESS HOMES)**

3) **THE ATTACK ON HUMAN SEXUALITY**

4) **GOVERNMENT TAKING OVER THE ROLE OF THE FAMILY**

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5) **CONFLICT**

C. **CONFLICT IS ONE OF SATAN'S PRIMARY SCHEMES TO DESTROY THE FAMILY**

1. **Ephesians 6:10-12 (NASB) Finally**, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against **the schemes of the devil**. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

2. **PARENT TO PARENT**

3. **PARENT TO CHILD**

4. **CHILD TO CHILD**

3. **TEACHING CHILDREN BY WORDS AND ACTIONS TO FOLLOW SCRIPTURAL INSTRUCTIONS WHEN RESPONDING (NOT REACTING) TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE WRONGED OR OFFENDED THEM IS ONE OF A PARENT'S MOST IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES.**

A. **REMEMBER: WHERE PARENTING IS CONCERNED... MORE IS CAUGHT THAN TAUGHT.**

B. **QUESTION FOR PARENTS: HOW DO YOU COPE WITH CONFLICT WHEN YOU ARE WRONGED OR OFFENDED?**

1. **DOES YOU BEGIN WITH ANGRY AND CONDEMNING WORDS?**

C. **HOW DO OUR WORDS AFFECT CONFLICTS?**

1. "You are writing a Gospel,

A chapter each day,

By deeds that you do,

By **words that you say.**

Men read what you write,

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Whether faithless or true;

Say, what is the Gospel

According to you?"

— Paul Gilbert

4. **PARENTS TONGUES/SPEECH CAN INFLUENCE OUR ABILITY TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS.**
- A. **WE TEACH OUR CHILDREN BY OUR WORDS, AS WELL AS BY OUR ACTIONS.**
- B. **Psalm 19:14 (NASB)** Let the **words of my mouth** and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.
1. **THERE ARE MANY PARENTING OPPORTUNITIES THAT NEED CORRECTION... BUT NOT IN ANGER.**
2. **Ephesians 4:15 (NASB)** but **speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ,
- C. **James 3:2-12 (NASB)** For we all stumble in many *ways*. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well. Now if we put the **bits into the horses' mouths** so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. Look at the **ships** also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires. So also the **tongue** is a small part of the body, and *yet* it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, the *very* world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which **defiles the entire body**, and **sets on fire the course of our life**, and **is set on fire by hell**. For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. But no one can tame the tongue; ***it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison.*** **With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing.** My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. Does a **fountain** send out from the same opening **both fresh and bitter**

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water? Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs?
Nor *can* salt water produce fresh.

1. **DISCUSS: DUPLICITY**

a. "DO WHAT I SAY, AND NOT WHAT I DO!"

D. **OUR SPEECH CAN EITHER:**

1. BLESS OR CURSE

2. MAKE THINGS BETTER OR WORSE

3. ENCOURAGE OR DISCOURAGE

4. HEAL OR HURT

5. BUILD UP OR TEAR DOWN

6. BE GRATEFUL OR COMPLAIN

7. OTHER EXAMPLES.

E. "Lord, help me watch the words I say

And keep them few and sweet,

For I don't know from day to day

Which ones I'll have to eat."

F. **WE CAN EITHER SAY, "I'M SORRY" OR "WILL YOU PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
FOR...?"**

5. **Proverbs 18:7 (NASB)** A fool's mouth is his ruin, And his lips are the snare of his soul.

A. **Proverbs 13:3 (NASB)** The one who guards his mouth preserves his life; The one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

B. **STORY: CRANES IN THE TARUS MOUNTAINS OF TURKEY**

1. In the Taurus Mountain in Turkey there are cranes. These cranes make a crackling sound as they as they fly. The problem is eagles will hear them cackle. The Eagles pick up the sound and attack because the Eagles know when that sound comes the cranes are about to be a meal for them

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because they can't compete with the power of an eagle. So what what the cranes do in the Taurus Mountains of Turkey is when they are about to fly they will pick up a rock and put it in its mouth. They will also pick up a rock and put it in their baby's mouths. Now when they're flying the eagles can't hear the cackle because they have a rock in their mouth. **They control their mouths so that they're not a bait for the enemy.**

2. PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR PARENTS.

3. PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION.

- a. **WHEN SATAN HEARS US, OR OUR CHILDREN, USING WORDS THAT EXACERBATE CONFLICTS... HE WILL PLACE CONFLICTS IN OUR PATH.**
- C. **James 1:19-20 (NASB)** *This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.*

6. DISCUSSION