

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

**1. 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.**

B. **STEPS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN (USING THE CHART).**

1. TAKE THEM TO THE CHART WHEN CONFLICTS ARISE.

2. GO THROUGH THE STEPS TOWARD RESOLUTION WITH BOTH CHILDREN.

3. GUIDE THEM THROUGH THE STEPS TOWARD RESOLUTION.

4. HOLD COURT (PARENTAL INTERVENTION) IF NECESSARY.

a. REMEMBER: YOU ARE ONLY JUST BEGINNING TO TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO RESOLVE THEIR OWN CONFLICTS.

1) YOUR GOAL IS NOT TO RESOLVE THEM YOURSELF!

2) THIS PROCESS WILL TAKE TIME.

C. **STEPS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR OLDER CHILDREN BEFORE CONFLICTS ARISE.**

1. POST THE CHART WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS WHERE IT IS.

2. READ THROUGH THE BOOK TOGETHER

3. GO OVER THE CHART TOGETHER

a. EXPLAIN THAT YOUR CHILDREN SHOULD GO TO THE CHART FIRST... BEFORE THEY INVOLVE ANYONE ELSE IN THEIR CONFLICT.

4. WALK YOUR CHILDREN THROUGH AN IMAGINARY CONFLICT:

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

- a. USING THE **CHART... TEACH THE OFFENDED HOW THEY SHOULD RESPOND.**
  - b. USING THE **CHART... TEACH THE OFFENDER HOW THEY SHOULD RESPOND.**
- D. **STEPS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR OLDER CHILDREN AFTER CONFLICTS ARISE.**
1. **SEND THE CHILD (WHO COMES RUNNING TO YOU TO COMPLAIN, THE OFFENDED, THE OFFENDER, OR BOTH) TO THE CHART TO SEEK RESOLUTION... WITHOUT YOUR INPUT.**
    - a. **LISTEN TO SEE IF ONE OR BOTH OF THEM FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE PROPER STEPS AND REACH RESOLUTION.**
  2. **IF THE OFFENDED OR THE OFFENDER DO NOT RESOLVE THEIR CONFLICT IN THE PROPER WAY:**
    - a. **TAKE EACH CHILD ASIDE, ONE AT A TIME, AND GUIDE THEM THROUGH THE PROCESS.**
      - 1) **HELP THEM TO HONESTLY EXAMINE THEIR OWN ATTITUDES.**
      - 2) **TEACH THEM HOW TO PROPERLY RESOLVE THEIR PART OF THE CONFLICT.**
        - i. **YES... THIS PROCESS IS VERY TIME CONSUMING IN THE BEGINNING.**
        - ii. **THAT'S WHY IT IS CALLED A PROCESS.**
      - 3) **HOWEVER... THE RESULTS WILL BE WORTH THE INVESTMENT.**
        - i. **FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN**
    - b. **THE REAL ISSUE: ARE YOU WILLING TO COMMIT TO THIS INVESTMENT OF YOUR TIME?...**

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

- 1) **FOR YOU AND FOR YOUR CHILDREN.**
  - i. **THE REWARDS ARE ETERNAL!**
  
3. **AFTER INSTRUCTING ONE, OR BOTH, SIDES... SEND THEM BACK TO THE CHART TO SEEK RESOLUTION.**
  - a. **LISTEN:**
    - 1) ... TO SEE IF THE **OFFENDED** CHILD IS **WILLING TO OVERLOOK THE OFFENSE.**
      - i. **AND, TO SEE IF THE OFFENDED APPROACHES THE OFFENDER IN THE PROPER WAY.**
    - 2) ... TO SEE IF THE **OFFENDER** IS **CONFESSING** THEIR **OFFENSE** AND **ASKING FOR FORGIVENESS.**
  
4. **IF THE OFFENDED AND THE OFFENDER RESOLVE THE CONFLICT ENCOURAGE BOTH FOR THEIR OBEDIENCE IN RESOLVING THE CONFLICT.**
  
5. **CAVEAT: THIS PROCESS DOES NOT EXCUSE THE PARENT FROM THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO DISCIPLINE FOR ANY SINFUL BEHAVIOR THAT OCCURRED.**
  - a. **UNKIND WORDS, NAME CALLING, SELFISHNESS, HITTING, TAKING REVENGE, TAKING ANOTHER'S POSSESSIONS, ETC.**
  
  - b. **PARENTS MUST HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES FOR SIN... EVEN WHEN THAT SIN IS CONFESSED AND FORGIVEN.**
  
  - c. **THE "GOOD NEWS" IS THAT JESUS PAID THE PRICE FOR OUR SIN... YET IN MANY WAYS WE STILL SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR SINS.**
  
  - d. **NATURAL CONSEQUENCES**

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

**1) THE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING**

**2) Galatians 6:7 (NASB)** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

**3) SOMETIMES THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN ARE PENALTIES.**

**e. INSTRUCTIONAL CONSEQUENCES**

**1) James 1:2-4 (NASB)** Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

**2) SOMETIMES THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN ARE TO INSTRUCT US**

**f. DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES**

**1) Hebrews 12:5-6 (NASB)** and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE **DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD**, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE REPROVED BY HIM; FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE **DISCIPLINES**, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES."

**2) SOMETIMES THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN ARE TO DISCIPLINE US**

**g. THE BOTTOM LINE: PARENTS SHOULD TEACH THEIR CHILDREN:**

**1) THAT WHILE THEIR SINS CAN ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN... SIN STILL HAS CONSEQUENCES.**

**6. THE FINAL STEP: PARENTS MAY NEED TO CALL A "COURT SESSION" IF THEIR CHILDREN CANNOT COME TO A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THEIR CONFLICTS AFTER FOLLOWING THE PRECEDING STEPS.**

**E. WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE OFFENDED BROTHER/SISTER TO DO (STEPS A-H):**

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

1. **DO NOT BE IN A HURRY TO TELL SOMEONE ELSE WHEN YOU ARE OFFENDED.**
2. **REMOVE "THE PLANK" FROM YOUR OWN EYE... FIRST.**
  - a. **QUESTIONS TO DISCOVER YOUR OWN PLANK:**
  - b. **ARE YOU BEING EASILY PROVOKED?**
  - c. **ARE YOU THINKING OF YOURSELF FIRST?**
  - d. **ARE YOU REPAYING EVIL WITH EVIL?**
3. **BE A PEACEMAKER.**
  - a. **QUESTIONS TO DISCOVER IF YOU ARE BEING A PEACEMAKER**
    - 1) **ARE YOU BEING PATIENT?**
    - 2) **ARE YOU SHARING?**
    - 3) **ARE YOU TRYING TO STOP A CONFLICT?**
    - 4) **ARE YOU OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD?**
4. **GO TO THE PERSON WHO OFFENDED YOU TO SEEK RESTORATION.**
5. **IF THE OFFENDER REPENTS... FORGIVE THEM.**
6. **DO NOT REJOICE IN THE OFFENDER'S WRONGDOING.**
7. **IF THE OFFENDER STILL DOES NOT REPENT... GO TO YOUR PARENTS.**
- F. **REMEMBER... THE OBJECT IS TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN HOW TO RESOLVE THEIR OWN CONFLICTS!**
  1. **NOT... FOR THE PARENT TO RESOLVE THEIR CHILDRENS CONFLICTS!**
2. **WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE OFFENDER TO DO:**
  - A. **EXAMINE YOUR OWN HEART**
    1. **ARE YOU TROUBLED BY WHAT YOU DID?**

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

**B. CONFESS YOUR SIN TO GOD**

1. ASK HIM TO FORGIVE YOU.

a. THIS MUST BE SINCIRE.

**C. CONFESS YOUR SIN TO THE PERSON YOU WRONGED.**

1. ASK THEM TO FORGIVE YOU.

a. THIS MUST BE SINCIRE.

**3. WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE JUDGE/PARENT TO DO.**

**A. PRAY FOR WISDOM.**

1. James 1:5-8 (NASB) But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

**B. PRAY WITH THE OFFENDED CHILD.**

1. Matthew 5:44-45 (NLT2) But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.

**C. LISTEN CAREFULLY TO BOTH SIDES.**

**D. IF THE PARENT FINDS THAT THE OFFENDED CHILD HAS NOT TOLD THE TRUTH, HE SHOULD RECEIVE THE PUNISHMENT THAT THE OFFENDER WOULD HAVE RECEIVED... IF HE HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY.**

1. Deuteronomy 19:18-19 (NLT2) The judges must investigate the case thoroughly. If the accuser has brought false charges against his fellow

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

**Psalm 133:1** (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity**!

Israelite, you must impose on the accuser the sentence he intended for the other person. In this way, you will purge such evil from among you.

E. **IF THE OFFENDED CHILD IS TAKING PLEASURE IN THE PARENT'S DISCIPLINE OF THE OFFENDER... WITHOLD YOUR DISCIPLINE.**

1. **Proverbs 24:17-18** (NASB) Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; Or the LORD will see *it* and be displeased, And turn His anger away from him.

F. **TEACH AND CORRECT THE WRONGDOER**

1. **Proverbs 25:15** (NLV) A wise man speaking strong words to a listening ear is like a piece of gold for the ear.

G. **ADMINISTER JUSTICE**

1. **Proverbs 3:11-12** (NL2) My child, don't reject the LORD's discipline, and don't be upset when he corrects you. For the LORD corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

H. **PRAY WITH THE OFFENDER**

1. **1 John 1:9** (NASB77) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I. **BEGIN TO MEMORIZE APPROPRIATE SCRIPTURE VERSES TOGETHER.**

1. **Psalm 119:11** (NASB) Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.
2. **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.

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

**4. SUMMARY**

**A. WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE OFFENDED CHILD TO DO:**

1. **DON'T BE IN A HURRY TO TELL SOMEONE ELSE.**
  - a. **TO TATTLE OR GOSSIP.**
2. **REMOVE "THE PLANK" FROM YOUR OWN EYE.**
  - a. **BEFORE YOU GO LOOKING AT THE FAULTS IN OTHERS... TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT YOUR OWN FAULTS.**
3. **BE A PEACEMAKER.**
  - a. **PEACEMAKERS RECONCILE AND RESOLVE.**
  - b. **THEY MAKE THINGS BETTER!**
4. **GO TO THE PERSON WHO OFFENDED YOU.**
  - a. **... AND SEEK PEACE... RESOLUTION.**
5. **IF THE OFFENDER REPENTS... FORGIVE THEM.**
6. **IF THE OFFENDER DOES NOT REPENT, GO TO THE AUTHORITY/PARENT.**



**PARENTING BY THE BOOK**  
**TRAINING OUR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Psalm 133:1 (NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers/sisters to dwell together in **unity!**

7. **THE OFFENDED MUST NOT REJOICE IF THE OFFENDER IS PUNISHED.**

**B. WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE OFFENDER TO DO:**

1. **EXAMINE YOUR HEART... ARE YOU TROUBLED BY YOUR OFFENCE?**

a. **DID YOU DO THE WRONG THING?**

2. **CONFESS YOUR SIN TO GOD... AND ASK HIM TO FORGIVE YOU.**

a. **NOT... "I'M SORRY"!**

b. **NAME THE WRONG**

1) **IN JESUS' NAME, WILL YOU PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR... (NAME THE OFFENSE)?**

3. **CONFESS YOUR SIN TO THE PERSON YOU WRONGED... AND ASK THEM TO FORGIVE YOU.**

a. **NOT... "I'M SORRY"!**

b. **NAME THE WRONG**

1) **WILL YOU PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR... (NAME THE OFFENSE)?**

4. **DETERMINE TO STOP THE OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOR.**

5. **IN THE FUTURE, DO THE RIGHT THING.**