

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 THEIR 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. **AREAS OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION PREVIOUSLY COVERED:**

1. **STEPS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN.**
2. **STEPS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR OLDER CHILDREN BEFORE CONFLICTS ARISE.**
3. **STEPS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR OLDER CHILDREN AFTER CONFLICTS ARISE.**
4. **WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE OFFENDED BROTHER/SISTER TO DO IN ORDER TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS.**

2. WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE OFFENDER TO DO:

A. **EXAMINE YOUR HEART... ARE YOU TROUBLED BY WHAT YOU DID?**

1. **Psalm 38:18 (NASB)** For I confess my iniquity; I am full of anxiety because of my sin.
2. **Psalm 51:17 (NLT)** The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. **You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.**

B. **CONFESS YOUR SIN TO GOD.**

1. **PSALM 32:5 (NLV)** I told my sin to you. I did not hide my wrongdoing. I said, "I will tell my sins to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

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

1. **James 5:16a (NASB)** Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

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2. **Matthew 5:23-25** (NLT) “If you take your gift to the altar and **remember that your brother/sister has something against you**, leave your gift at the altar. **Go and make right what is wrong between you**. Then come back and give your gift. Agree with the one who is against you while you are talking together, or they might take you to court (parent).”
- D. **ASK THE PERSON YOU HARMED TO FORGIVE YOU.**
- E. **TURN AWAY FROM YOUR SIN... THAT MEANS A CHANGE... STOP IT!**
 1. **Proverbs 28:13** (NLT) It will not go well for the one who hides their sins, but he who tells his sins and turns away from them will be given loving pity.
- F. **DO WHAT IS RIGHT.**
 1. **Psalm 34:14** (NASB) Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it.
 2. **Ezekiel 18:27** (NLT) And if wicked people turn from their wickedness, obey the law, and **do what is just and right, they will save their lives.**
- G. * **REMOVE “THE PLANK” FROM YOUR OWN EYE... FIRST.**
 1. **Matthew 7:1-5** (NLT) “Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. “And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.
 2. **QUESTIONS TO DISCOVER YOUR OWN “PLANK”:**
 - a. **ARE YOU BEING TOO EASILY PROVOKED?**
 - 1) **Proverbs 19:11** (NLT) Sensible people control their temper; **they earn respect by overlooking wrongs.**
 - b. **ARE YOU THINKING OF YOURSELF FIRST?**

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1) **Romans 12:10** (NASB) Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; **give preference to one another** in honor;

c. ARE **YOU REPAYING EVIL WITH EVIL?**

1) **1 Peter 3:8-9** (NLT) Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. **Don't repay evil for evil.** Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, **pay them back with a blessing.** That is what God has called you to do, and he will bless you for it.

H. * **BE A PEACEMAKER.**

1. **Romans 12:17-18** (NLT2) Do all that you can to **live in peace with everyone.**

2. **QUESTIONS TO DISCOVER IF YOU ARE BEING A PEACEMAKER**

a. ARE **YOU BEING PATIENT?**

1) **Ephesians 4:3** (NLT) Make every effort to **keep yourselves united** in the Spirit, **binding yourselves together with peace.**

b. ARE **YOU SHARING?**

1) **Proverbs 11:25** (NASB) The **generous man will be prosperous,** And he who waters will himself be watered.

c. ARE **YOU TRYING TO STOP A CONFLICT... OR... PUNISH THE OFFENDER?**

1) **Proverbs 20:3** (NASB) Keeping away from strife is an honor for a man, But **any fool will quarrel.**

d. ARE **YOU OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD?**

1) **Romans 12:20-21** (NASB) "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING

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YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." **Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

I. * **NOTE: THESE LAST TWO STEPS ARE THE SAME FOR THE OFFENDED AND FOR THE OFFENDER.**

3. **WHAT THE BIBLE TELLS THE PARENT (JUDGE) 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.**
2. **1 Kings 3:9 (NKJV) Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"**

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

1. **Matthew 5:44-45a (NKJV) But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven;**

C. **LISTEN BEFORE YOU JUDGE.**

1. **Proverbs 18:13 (NKJV) He who answers a matter before he hears it, *It is folly and shame to him.***

D. **LISTEN CAREFULLY TO BOTH SIDES AND TO WITNESSES.**

1. **Proverbs 18:17 (NASB) The first to plead his case seems right, Until another comes and examines him.**

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E. **IF THE OFFENDED CHILD IS JUDGED BY THE PARENT NOT TO BE TELLING THE TRUTH, THE OFFENDED CHILD SHOULD RECEIVE THE PUNISHMENT THAT THE OFFENDER WOULD HAVE RECEIVED IF THE OFFENDER HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY.**

1. **Deuteronomy 19:16-20 (NASB)** "If a malicious witness rises up against a man to accuse him of wrongdoing, then both the men who have the dispute shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who will be in office in those days. "The judges shall investigate thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness and he has accused his brother falsely, **then you shall do to him just as he had intended to do to his brother.** Thus you shall purge the evil from among you. "The rest will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such an evil thing among you.

F. **IF THE OFFENDED CHILD TAKES PLEASURE IN THE PARENTS DISCIPLINE OF THE OFFENDER... THE PARENT SHOULD WITHHOLD THEIR 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.

G. **TEACH... THEN CORRECT THE WRONGDOER.**

1. **Proverbs 25:12 (NLT)** To one who listens, valid criticism is like a gold earring or other gold jewelry.
2. **Proverbs 15:32 (NLT)** If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding.

H. **ADMINISTER DISCIPLINE.**

1. **Hebrews 12:11 (NASB)** All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

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2. **Proverbs 3:11-12 (NASB)** My son, **do not reject the discipline of the LORD** Or loathe His reproof, For whom the LORD loves He reproofs, **Even as a father *corrects* the son in whom he delights.**
 3. **Proverbs 29:17 (NLT)** **Discipline your children, and they will give you peace of mind** and will make your heart glad.
 4. **Proverbs 29:19 (NLT)** **Words alone will not discipline** a servant; the words may be understood, but they are not heeded.
 5. **Proverbs 29:15 (NASB)** The rod and reproof give wisdom, **But a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother.**
- I. **PRAY WITH THE OFFENDER.**
1. **1 John 2:1b (NLT)** ... **But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father.** He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous.
 2. **1 John 1:9 (NLT)** But **if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins** and to cleanse us from all wickedness.
- J. **MEMORIZE APPROPRIATE SCRIPTURE... TOGETHER.**
1. **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.
 2. **Psalm 119:9-11 (NASB)** How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Your word. With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments. **Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.**
 3. **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NASB)** **All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable** for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.