

“Parenting Isn’t For Cowards”–Desperate Households (4 of 4)

Learn from your legacy/leave the baggage behind

Illustration: Personal experiences growing up

Father: Self-discipline/fit/hard worker/frugal

Mother: Unconditional love/grace/creative

Deuteronomy 5:16 (New Living Translation)

“Honor your father and mother, as the Lord your God commanded you. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.”

Proverbs 1:8 (New Living Translation)

“My child, listen when your father corrects you.
Don’t neglect your mother’s instruction.”

Proverbs 23:22 (New Living Translation)

“Listen to your father, who gave you life, and don’t despise your mother when she is old.”

Now, I realize that none of us were “raised” with perfect parents; but they were sinful, carnal, and fleshy just like us!

It has taken me a long, long time to learn one of the most important lessons of all. . . .

“The Art of Forgetting”

Share a bit of personal story of father/son relationship & it’s “haunting” of me for most of my life!

Philippians 3:13 (New Living Translation)

“No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.”

Do not say, "Why were the former days better than these?" You do not move ahead by constantly looking in a rear view mirror. The past is a rudder to guide you, not an anchor to drag you. We must learn from the past but not live in the past.

Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe.

Joshua 1:7 (New Living Translation)

“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do.”

“Seek Wisdom”

Proverbs 3:13-14 (New Living Translation)

“Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding. For wisdom is more profitable than silver, and her wages are better than gold.”

Proverbs 8:11 (New Living Translation)

“For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can compare with it.”

Professionally: Gene Poppino

Early years: David & Kelli Pritchard

Bath tubs, boxes, feeding

Ministry years: Mike & Shari Totman

GGGW, counsel (professional, family, & personal), Scare them kids!

“Pursue the major”

(Read parts of many verses on the heart)

As a parent, I am after my kid’s hearts

More than I am after prescribed “appropriate behaviors”

As a follower of Christ, I believe that my number one as a parent is to give them the heart of Christ...

What does that mean?

Expand

Share about Christ & his desires (parables: Lost sheep, coin, son: (understand THE FATHER’S HEART)

Is it our desire to save the world or to save our children from the world?

Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20 (New Living Translation)

“Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

1 Corinthians 9:19-24 (New Living Translation)

“Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law. When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ. When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. Don’t you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!”

What does this mean in relation to child rearing?

How can I prepare my kids for the real world?

I prepare them/don’t protect them!

Our goal in parenting is to raise God fearing people!

And as far as I can tell, this will probably happen at different ages for each of them...

Goal = Ownership of their character, attitudes, behaviors under the umbrella of faith

I am not trying to produce cookie cutter kids...

Kimi & I raise each one differently but consistently...

Embrace their individuality/giftedness

When I work with young people, it is easy for me to look beyond body piercings, tattoos, smoking, etc. . . .

Those things don't bother me. . . .

That's all outer wear. . .

Because I am after one thing. . . there heart!

As parents, we spend way too much time deterring kids from the minors in life!

I think that it what Paul had in mind when he shared this passage. . .

Ephesians 6:4 (New Living Translation)

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord."

Expand & draw closure

Questions for further pondering. . . .

List a few of the positive character traits that you "inherited" from your parents.

Is there any "baggage" that you still carry from your childhood that you need to leave behind?

Who is your mentor for parenting? Who will you ask?

How can you best minister to the true heart of your child?