

BALANCING LOVING AND DISCIPLINE

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I. Why be concerned with balance?

A. God is a God of _____ and _____

1 Cor 14:40 But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

1 Cor 14:33a For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.

B. God's commands are not just _____, but also _____

Eph 4:28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

C. Families in which love is not balanced with discipline are not _____

*Deu 10:12 And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to **fear the LORD** your God, to walk in all his ways, to **love him**, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,*

⇒ King David sang of his **love** for God (Ps 18:1; 116:1; 119:159)

⇒ King David also sang of the **fear** of God (Ps 2:11; 22:25; 33:8).

1. Families in which **affection** is strong and **discipline** is weak can easily be _____

1 Sam 3:13 For I told him [Eli] that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons made themselves contemptible, and he failed to restrain them.

2. Families in which authority and control are dominant, more likely _____ their teens

II. Determining when our children need authority and when they need affection

⇒ This requires that we see them through the _____ of _____

A. Our children are _____ by nature

Psalms 51:5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Genesis 6:5 The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.

Genesis 8:21b ... every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood...

⇒ Understanding depravity means we shouldn't _____ them entirely

⇒ Understanding depravity means we must devote ourselves to _____ them

B. Their fleshly nature is not their _____

2 Cor 5:16 Therefore from now on we recognize no man according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

C. Their is not their

1 Cor 6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God... 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

D. Christ children, without for what they had done

Mark 10:13 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

Mat 18:1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" 2 He called a little child and had him stand among them. 3 And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 "And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. 6 But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

E. It is imperative that we speak to them with and

"This is not like you..." "You're an honest boy..." "I think you'll make the right choice."

F. We should encourage them using

⇒ Affirm them while God

1 Cor 1:4; Eph 1:15-16; Phil 1:3-6; Col 1:3-4; 1 Th 1:2-4; 2 Th 1:3-4; 2 Tim 1:3

Phil 1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

2 Th 1:3 We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. 4 Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

III. Discerning the difference between _____ and _____ issues

A. A **will** issue is when they are _____ your leadership

⇒ A defiant will may need to _____

⇒ A defiant will may be an expression of a _____ relationship that needs _____

B. A skill issue is a behavior that is not defiance, but reflects a _____ skill, ie:

⇒ tapping pencil and irritating siblings

⇒ staying on task

⇒ completing assignments

⇒ toilet training

IV. Training skills

A. Using _____ to motivate and reinforce skills

⇒ Bribes coerce a _____

Ex 23:8 "Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds those who see and twists the words of the righteous.

Eccl 7:7b ...a bribe corrupts the heart.

⇒ Rewards are given for faithfulness in _____

*1 Cor 3:8 The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be **rewarded according to his own labor.***

*2 John 1:8 Watch out that you do not lose what **you have worked for**, but **that you may be rewarded fully.***

B. Kinds of _____

⇒ Accumulated points for prizes, ie: toys, tools, dates, outings, etc.

⇒ Immediate reinforcement, ie: treats, breaks, money, etc.

⇒ Greater privileges, ie: more gratifying responsibilities, drivers license, etc.

C. _____ for penalties

⇒ loss of privilege

⇒ monetary fines