

FROM
ME TO WE

KEYS FOR BUILDING **STRONG FAMILIES AND RELATIONSHIPS**

#10 HELP, I'M A PARENT! - PART 3

1. Take time to teach.

Proverbs 1:8-9 (TPT) Pay close attention, my child, to your father's wise words and never forget your mother's instructions. For their insight will bring you success, adorning you with grace-filled thoughts and giving you reins to guide your decisions.

Parents have the primary responsibility for teaching their children:

- ▶ Moral and ethical principles and values.
- ▶ Life priorities and values.
- ▶ Respect for and responsiveness to authority.
- ▶ Life skills.
- ▶ Time and money management.
- ▶ Decision-making skills.
- ▶ Work ethic.
- ▶ Spiritual, mental and emotional health principles and practices.
- ▶ Communication and relationship skills.
- ▶ Conflict resolution skills.
- ▶ Attitude development and management.

2. Establish boundaries and provide discipline.

• **Hebrews 12:5-11**

Ephesians 6:1-4 (TLB) Children, obey your parents; this is the right thing to do because God has placed them in authority over

you. Honor your father and mother. This is the first of God's Ten Commandments that ends with a promise. And this is the promise: that if you honor your father and mother, yours will be a long life, full of blessing. And now a word to you parents. Don't keep on scolding and nagging your children, making them angry and resentful. Rather, bring them up with the loving discipline the Lord himself approves, with suggestions and godly advice.

Colossians 3:20-21 (TPT) Let the children respect and pay attention to their parents in everything for this pleases our Lord Jesus. And fathers, don't have unrealistic expectations for your children or else they may become discouraged.

- ▶ Know age-appropriate attitudes and behavior; be realistic.
- ▶ Create a structured home environment with clear and minimal important rules.
- ▶ Make sure the attitude and behavior boundaries are clear.
- ▶ Pre-determine personalized, meaningful, appropriate consequences for violating the attitude and behavior boundaries.
- ▶ Consistently enforce consequences when attitude and behavior boundaries are breached.
- ▶ Expect respectful and quick obedience to parental correction and instructions.
- ▶ Keep your cool when correcting your children.
- ▶ Positively reinforce obedience to the rules and respect for the boundaries.
- ▶ Know when to "tighten" the rules/boundaries and when to "loosen" them.
- ▶ Understand and explain to your child the relationship between responsibility and freedom.