

# Balancing Rules with Relationships

## Practical Parenting

### Jesus gave His life for us, we must do the same for our children.

*"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."* -1 John 3:16



*"We love Him because He first loved us."* -1 John 4:19

- Faith is a belief that what a person says is reliable, and a trust in their character.  
Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. *1 Corinthians 4:2*
- Children need to develop a trust in us - that we will do what is best for them.

### Your children are not, never were, and never will be yours.

- Children are guests in your home, placed in your custody by God Himself.
- Your children are people of God, given to you that you might shape them.
- They must carry the "torch" of God when you are dead.

### A proper husband and wife relationship is essential to parenting.



- Our children's only hope of appeal is that we are submitted to God, and the Bible is our final authority.
- They need to see that Mom and Dad are people under authority too.
- They need to see that God's ways work in marriage.

### **Children turn away primarily because of poor relationships...**

with Jesus,  
with their parents,  
and with their hopeless future.

*Greater love has no man than this....*  
John 15:13

*A motor cycle works only if it has gasoline...*



*So too, parenting is only successful if God is working in it.*



*"My failure to care for Joanne the first year of marriage resulted in years of lost 'oneness' and faulty parenting."*

- Charles Bultman



# Practical Parenting

## Our enemy's goal is to 'divide and conquer'

### Husband / Wife—Parents / Children.

Satan's desire is to separate the wisdom of age from the zeal of youth.



## The Four Wheels of a Happy Family

1. Love
2. Respect
3. Obedience
4. Orderliness

Where is the Family Crown?



## A Common Dilemma

- Mom becomes overwhelmed and manipulated
- Dad comes home - a dictator
- Mom protects the children from Dad's discipline (they are not "one") and thus trains the children to obey only when Mom agrees with Dad's rules – she has trained them to obey only the rules they like.
- Dad loses the child's heart – They are not "walking together"

### **Rules without a loving relationship breed rebellion.**

(Isn't that true of their relationship with God too?)

### **Result:**

- "Let me out of here, to where there are no giant messes, no screaming fights, and to where someone really cares about me."
- Your child is now easy prey for any offer of love—from non-Christian sources.
- Evolution often becomes their excuse for rejecting the rules of their parents, and the God their parents represent .

## What is your Relationship Index?

Your relationship index consists of the number of "bacpats" (acts of encouragement and praise) minus the number of "yeldats" (negative remarks or actions).

### **Getting to the heart**

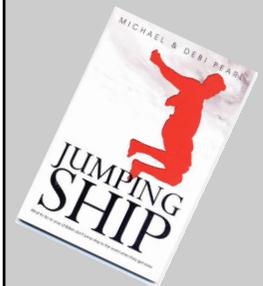


Books we recommend :

- Shepherding a Child's Heart -Tripp
- Romancing your Child's Heart -Swan
- No Greater Joy I, II, III -Pearl
- To Train up a Child -Pearl

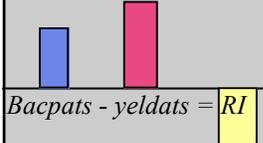
## Things used to divide parents and teens

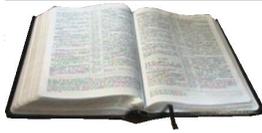
- Church Preferences
- Dating Methods
- Friends
- Hair Style
- Sports
- Music
- Videos
- Internet
- Dress



### **Relationship Index**

$$4 - 10 = -6$$





# Practical Parenting

## Basic Parenting Rule:

### Your word must be **GOLD**

- Commands:** Don't give any orders you are not willing to enforce or cannot enforce.
- Consistency:** Mom and Dad both enforce every command. Inconsistency breeds insecurity and invites testing of each order.
- Consequences:** There must be undesirable results for disobeying parents.
  - **Teach; warn once** to make sure they understood; **re-teach**; then **discipline** if the offence is repeated -**no more warnings—EVER.**
  - Once we unintentionally teach our children that commands can be disregarded, they will also disregard God's commands.
  - Enforcing commands is **HARD WORK** but worth every minute of it.

"Wipe that look off your face!"

"I wonder if I will get away with it this time..."



**Don't give orders you're not willing to enforce:**

- "Stop that."
- "Get away from that."
- "Be quiet I mean it!"
- "Come here."
- "Sit right here."
- "Eat that... NOW!"



### Where are you sowing?

Don't delude yourself into thinking God can be cheated: where a man sows, there he reaps: If he sows in the field of self-indulgence he will get a harvest of corruption out of it; if he sows in the field of the Spirit he will get from it a harvest of eternal life. *-Galatians 6:7-8*

Lk 8:14 They are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life.

**Sow here...**

Watching / reading what?  
What giving life for?  
Fun trumps blessing others?

**Two Fields**

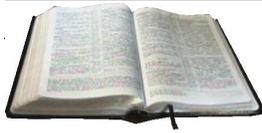
Luke 8:15 They hear the word and 'hang on to' it.

**Reap here?**

Daily "quiet time"  
Radical Obedience to God?  
Blessing others?



*How come we have well-trained pets, but out of control children?*



# Practical Parenting

## Relationship Builders

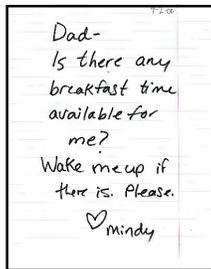
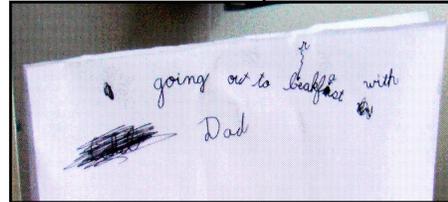
- Children follow best for love of you.
- When children work **with** me, instead of **for** me, I get a wonderful reward. (transforming productiveness into delight.)
- Taking children out to breakfast each week reduces my frustration by 92.543%.



Children are treasure chests from which we can draw joy and love.

## Questions for breakfasts with children

- Are you looking forward to anything?*
- Is anything hindering you?*
- How are you doing spiritually?*
- Am I doing anything that is bothering you?*
- Is there something that should be done around the house?*
- Is there anything I can do for you?*
- Are you afraid of anything?*
- Want to build or remodel anything?*
- Want to go anywhere?*
- Is there something you would like to do that I might be able to help open doors for you?*
- Any problems with other children?*
- Are you carrying any guilt? We can get rid of it.*
- What are some of your best memories?*
- Want to know anything?*



# Spread over months



Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

Amos 3:3

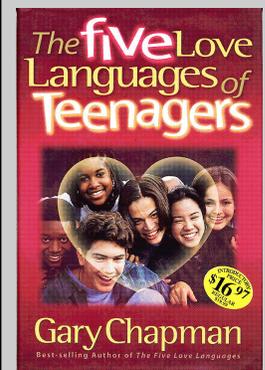
- A weekly date with my wife has made life soooooo much nicer.
- I can plan on bedtime requests and use that time to read, pray, and talk to a child.
- Sex-ed can be much easier in the context of God's wisdom in a fallen world.
- Share your fun with children and share your child's fun with them.
- Explore God's creation with them. Go camping.
- Reading aloud to each other.

## Do you feel your love is unappreciated?

Learn to communicate in your child's love language:

1. Words of Affirmation
2. Acts of Service
3. Receiving Gifts
4. Quality Time
5. Physical Touch

Read The Five Love Language of Teenagers by Gary Chapman



Learn each other's love language



# Practical Parenting

And whenever you stand praying, if you have **anything against anyone**, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. “  
- Jesus Mark 11:25

## Relationship Breakers

- Unkept promises become lies.
- Too tough and not understanding.
- Public put-downs and shaming.
- Divided Parents – not supporting each other in front of the children.
- Not forgiving your spouse—
- Ignoring the “good” child.
- Not spending ONE on ONE time with each child.
- Not taking care of their needs.
- Not helping deal with their fears.
- Showing favoritism to certain children.

### The Covetousness/Contentment Cube

1. *Envy vs Gratefulness*
2. *Covetousness vs Contentment*
3. *Entitlement vs Contributing*
4. *Sibling Rivalry vs Harmony*
5. *Comparison vs Encouragement*
6. *Jealousy vs Sacrificial Love*



- Always busy with house stuff—no “tea time” with them.
- Private Music, Private TV, and Private Internet in the children’s bedrooms are foolish.

*Forgiveness between parents and children must be sought.  
Bitterness results from ignoring hurts.*

## Anger Resolution

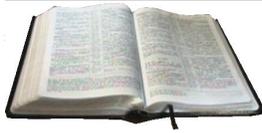
- Avoid **using** anger or allow yourself the luxury of displaying it in your family!  
“God’s righteousness is never served by man’s anger.” -James 1:20  
“Be angry and sin not.” -Ephesians 4:26  
(God is justly angry; we are most often selfishly angry.)
- Anger appears to work - IT DOES, but you get the opposite of what you want.
- Reprimanding in private gets better results.
- Whispering corrective words in their ears works better than calling out across the table.
- Girls are best not talked to at certain times....  
“This is a chemistry day... let’s talk tomorrow.”

### What kept us from being one?

Living inside self-built walls:  
• Guilt from past sins  
• Bitterness from past hurts  
Anger from the frustration of selfishness



*Broken things are easier to replace than broken relationships.*



# Practical Parenting

## Anger Resolution



- If emotions rise during the discussion, “hang up the phone” and call back later when you have a better connection.
- Getting kids to **tell ME** what they did is better than me telling **THEM** what they did.



Don't tell **THEM** what to do, Tell them what **YOU** do...

*If we confess our sins.... I John 1:9*

“I only help with homework when it's fun for me.”

- While it is important to acknowledge wrong in the day you hear of it, it is better not to decide consequences for a day or two.

**“I'll get back to you on this, try not to worry about it.”**

## We are discipling our children:

Passing the baton, “Let's follow the Master together.”



- Don't expect them to be better than we are.
- “A disciple when he is fully trained will be just like his master”.  
-Luke 6:40.

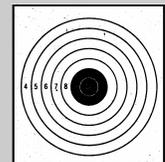
- He who covers his sin will not prosper, he who confesses and renounces them will find mercy. Proverbs 28:13
- Either clean up your own mess (self, marriage) or learn to cope with the junk.
- Discipling happens only when we are together for significant amounts of time.
- We want our children to make radical changes in their way of living – what are we, the parents, ready to radically change about our way of living?!



*Logical Learning does not take place in an emotion-ravaged mind.*



*Anger is an alarm that goes off when we have “unsundered” rights.*



*You are the target and the cork in your child's life.*







# Practical Parenting

## Why Rules?

God gave us guidelines in the Bible because He knows how we work, and what is best for us.

**User's Manual:  
Chevy Express Van**  
*by the Manufacturer*



**User's Manual:  
Human Race**  
*by the Manufacturer*

## Some of our Rules: Tools — Not Legalism

(“Removing the stink”, making them “vessels unto honor”)

- Be respectful to adults.
- Address adults as Mr. Mrs. or Miss. (No first names for parents generation)
- Expect to work with the family on Saturday.
- Videos previewed by parents.
- Ask for stored food.
- Everyone cleans up after eating.
- Go to bed on time. (recording, song, and special medicine)
- Get up BY YOURSELF when your alarm goes off.
- Properly dressed at all times.
- No “half-way points.”
- Only use given names for others – name calling: no way.
- Go to church on Sunday.
- Dress up for church.



### When older

- No contemporary secular music played in the home.
- Get permission before committing to go somewhere.
- Forget having a romantic relationship until you are old enough to marry.
- Tithe 10%, Save 50% in bank.
- Driver's license will probably be attained at age 18 – Grandpa or Dad will do the training.



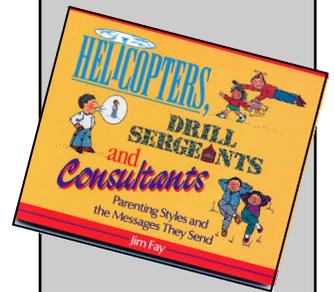
Remember—“Rules Minus Relationship Breeds Rebellion”

**“Obedience presupposes disagreement”**

**“If you can't obey me without asking 'why',  
you won't obey God without asking 'why'”**

O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!

*Deut 5:29*



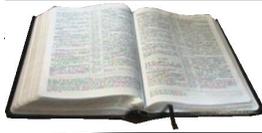
If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

2 Tim 2:21



One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;  
(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

1 Tim 3:4



## Practical Parenting

**“What do you think made your children turn out to be so committed to God?”, Oma asked.**

- **Sheraya:** *Quiet times each day & being around people who are excited about God. Jeremiah 29:13*
- **Mindy:** *Daily discussing the connections between what we were living and what God said about it... Quiet times. “The God who speaks”*
- **Jodi:** *God did it. The consistent commitment to the Bible was part of it.*
- **Kitri:** *The time you spent meeting with me each morning of Bible study before I left for school. Deuteronomy 6:7*
- **Chuck:** *Daily Bible time each school morning, Quiet times alone, singing, and Bible memorization. Putting Christianity in “shoe leather” with Proverbs.*

### Our Goal:

To have a Godly family?



To have a Godly marriage?



To be a Godly person? Husband and father or wife and mother?



*Only the last one works – the other two demand a controlling relationship.*

### Teaching Character—(More “Stink Removal”)

- **Reverence:** Honoring God His word, His day (not treating it in jest).
- **Truthfulness:** No theft, confess breakage, etc.
- **Punctuality:** The “Tapes” Time to Eat, Going Away, Going to Bed.
- **Cleanliness:** Personal grooming.
- **Persuasiveness:** Correct (not street) language. “like”
- **Graciousness:** Manners at the table “Penny Manners” game.
- **Wisdom:** Love God’s word & good books (non-fiction preferred).
- **Hospitality:** Sit down and eat together for every meal.
- **Gratitude:** Eat what is on the table without complaining.
- **Responsibility:** Do your own wash – group folding of towels , etc.
- **Orderliness:** Chores – room, dishes, jurisdiction, Saturday team work.
- **Deference:** Don’t interrupt adult conversations. (Mom’s especially)



Here is the **gasoline** for Biblical parenting: Your child’s heart for God— **Holy Spirit empowerment.**



... not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

Titus 2:10

For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

2 Th 3:10



# Practical Parenting

## Organization

“Disorganization was a major factor in my depression, anger, frustration, inefficiency, waste, embarrassment, lack of hospitality, friendlessness, and inability to help others.”  
-Joanne

- Teach children to use priority “to-do” lists.
- Jurisdictions and checklist sheets make children feel significant and helpful.
- Daily Schedules help us to stay focused and removes snack demands.
- What I don’t check up on and praise they won’t continue to do.

Managers of Their Chores



A Practical Guide to Daily Scheduling for Christian Home-Schooling Families

## Energy Givers, Wasters, and Takers—a tool and a self-test

	Energy Givers (love) <i>Givers</i>	Energy Wasters <i>Wasters</i>	Energy Takers (Me-ish) <i>Takers</i>
<b>Greeting People</b>	Smiles at everyone, (Obedient, serving, and joyful smiles)	Smiles at friends only	Does not smile, sadness, draws attention to self = selfishness
<b>Reaction to needs</b>	Sees & enthusiastically meets needs before being asked	Complacent, lacks initiative	Negative, murmurs and whines

Download this great resource from our website: Resources

Listen to them:



What has caused us to drift apart?

## What can you do when you realize you’ve made mistakes in raising your child?

- You are normal... perfect parents have never walked the earth! NOT ONE! (Adam? Abraham? Isaac? Jacob? Solomon?)
- Repent!, accept God’s forgiveness, then live forgiven !
- From now on do what He says.

“I am the vine and you are the branches, he who abides in me and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit, for without me you can do nothing”... “ If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, you shall ask what you will and it shall be done unto you.” -Jesus

**Jesus came to set people free!** John 15:5

## For Hope: People need to realize

- They need energy from outside of themselves.
- God wants them to come to the point of helplessness - willing to depend on Him.
- This is the HOPE which we have as His...
  - “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Ro 15:13



# Practical Parenting

## When is a girl ready to pursue a relationship?



- When she is trusting God to work through their authorities. Pb 21:1
- God is working through my Dad and Mom to guide me.... I will listen and obey.
- God is working through my employer (teacher) to shape my life, I will respond.
- When she demonstrates meeting the needs of others spontaneously I Cor 13:1-7
- When she is grateful to those who have invested in her.
- When she cares for the spiritual well-being of others.
- When she volunteers to help around the house.

## When is a guy ready to pursue a relationship?

- A man who has no direction is not ready to be followed. (Does he have a "purpose" in life?)
- A man who is not ready to be a family priest is not ready to have a family congregation. (Is he able to be her spiritual leader?)
- A man who is not prepared to defend his castle is not ready to live in one.
- A man who is not ready to be a father is not ready to be a husband.
- A man who is not ready to provide for his wife is not ready to receive her comforts (Does he have a means to support a wife and family?)
- Is he self-controlled?

From Doug Phillips of Vision Forum



## First Year of Marriage

"When a man has taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, and bring happiness to his wife whom he has taken."

Deuteronomy 24:5



Stay at the same job  
 Don't work excessive hours per week  
 Spend lots of time with your new wife to cheer her



The Purity Ring

Today, May 31, 2010, I, Kelly D. Bultman make a covenant to God and my future husband to keep myself sexually pure until my wedding night. I wear this ring as a symbol of that covenant and a gift to my husband on the day we marry.

God is my glory.  
 Charles R. Bultman  
 Kelly D. Bultman

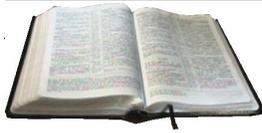
### "My Role in dating"

- You are a fisherman.
- My daughter is a lake trout.
- I need to check your fishing license before you drop your line into my lake.

### Divorce

"For I hate divorce, says the LORD the God of Israel, and covering one's garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So take heed to yourselves and do not be faithless".

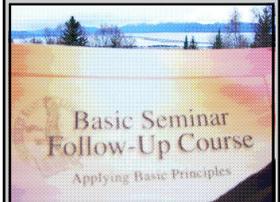
-Malachi 2:16



## *Practical Parenting*

### **Possible Questions to Ask Suitors. (Gradually)**

- Events leading up your salvation
- How do you know you are saved ? How are things different now that you are?
- Current Fellowship?
- Accountability for faith and practice
- What are the most effective spiritual growth activities you have experienced?
- Your spiritual gift?
- The three highest priorities in your life?
- What would it take to really make you happy?
- If you had the power to change anything about yourself, would you use it? May I ask what you would change?
- How do you use your free time?
- What is your financial situation?
- What previous relationships have you had?
- If my son/daughter married you, would he/she marry a virgin?
- Do you have any "strings from the past"?
- Divorce? Children? STD check?
- Marriage roles of man and woman... what are they?



# Goal: No surprises after the wedding

- Letter writing to the Father and the girl for a while, if appropriate

### **Practical Tips on Courting**

- ❖ Avoid unchaperoned driving and meetings.
- ❖ Maintain a healthy routine: reasonable waking and sleeping hours 7-8 hours sleep.
- ❖ 11:00 PM curfew, waiver for special occasions possible.
- ❖ Open dialogue regarding what you are thinking, planning, etc.
- ❖ Flee sexual arousal.
- ❖ Limit physical contact to greeting and parting hugs and hand-holding – avoid snuggling, etc.
- ❖ Maintain family relationships.
- ❖ Maintain contributions to household upkeep and if appropriate, finances.
- ❖ Stay spiritually healthy
  - regular personal input from the Bible and prayer.
  - regularly attend public worship at a church.
  - seek spiritually significant relationships with others: ministry to others / mentoring.
- ❖ Keep the parents informed about your life; schedule, activities, meetings, and when you will be together.





# Practical Parenting

## Why One in Marriage?

But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? **He seeks godly offspring.** Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. -Malachi 2:15



## Family Roles

### Dad:

- Love God with all his heart, soul, and mind
- Love his wife -Eph 5, I Peter 3:7
- Love his children -Mal 4:6
- Resist evil in his home -Ps 101:7
- Cleansing his home Ps 101:3
- Teach character to all members
- Set the course (purpose) of the family
- Define and delegate jurisdictions
- Know the "Condition of and feed the flock" -I Peter 5:2-3
- Oversee family finances and pay the bills

### Mom:

- Love, honor and submit to leadership of husband -Eph 5:22-24
- Work out and carry out the daily details of the above
- Demonstrate Godly relationship to authority
- Nurture the children and teach them godly character
- Teach children to honor God and their father
- Help husband to be successful
- Home—for hospitality and for healing
- Facilitate family outreach

### Child:

- Get to "know" and love God—develop Godly character
- Honor parents -Eph 5, Col 3:20
- Contribute to the running of the home - I Th 3:1

- Adult Children in the home:** They are old enough to make their own decisions before God, some differing from parents. However,
- Parents are responsible before God for how the house honors God – they too are old enough to make their own decisions: cleansed home, atmosphere of home, peacefulness, and orderliness.
  - Therefore when adult children live at home, they are obligated to yield to the parent – rather than the parent yielding to the child regarding behavior in the home.

### Dad's responsibility before God

- Protect
  - Guide
  - Provide
  - Train to work, relate to others, authority.
  - Teach the truth: by example and words
  - Discipline
  - Cleansed of evil
- Video  
Books,  
Magazines  
Internet  
Guests

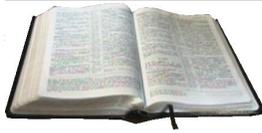
**"The battles in the home are over who will control the goodies"**



And I tell Eli that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity which he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, **and he did not restrain them.**

I Sam 3:13

"Grateful guests are always welcome !"



## Practical Parenting

### **Being a Gracious Parent to Your Married Children**

- Avoid calling multiple times in a day. Proverbs 25:17
- Avoid reminding them to be sure “not to forget to.....” – implying they cannot care for themselves or their children. (helicopter)
- Be careful not to steal the affections of the grandchildren by over- involvement.
- Don't try to change your child's directives to their child in front of the grandchild.
- Be careful to apply the parents' rules for the grandchildren when at your home. – food, bedtimes, media, etc. (maybe ask for “waivers”)
- Avoid playing “holiday capture the kids”,-- demanding/expecting attendance at all or most “family reunion style” holidays.
- Avoid regularly giving gifts to grandchildren that are so expensive that their parents can't compete for lack of funds.
- Avoid trying to control your married children – by whatever creative means you may have dreamed up.
- Don't take up sides against either spouse if at all possible.

### **Grand Parenting**

*“Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your **grandchildren**.” Deut. 4:9*

- Give yourself to the grandchildren by inviting them to “work” with you. Playing at their level is nice, but letting them be your helper is better.
- Read to them – encouragement to follow the Lord.
- Tell them funny or encouraging stories about their parents – (no put-down stories!)
- Take them on trips.
- Teach them how things work.
- Teach them skills or academics or apprentice or crafts.
- Teach them how to do things – to do what you like to do.
- Listen to them.
- Enjoy nature with them.
- Be there for them when they are hurting.

### **Some Radical Things We Did**

- Got rid of TV after 5 years of marriage.
- Vowed to read the Bible a minimum of 5 min. a day.
- Attempted to establish a Biblical family structure.
- Sought churches that would encourage children in holiness and a passion for God.
- Home Educated 10 children.
- Chose to value children (having them) over things.
- A major objective of our lives: raising Godly children.
- We cut out solitary or exclusive “hobbies” – replaced with inclusive hobbies.
- Stayed out of debt (except home).
- Honored Sunday – no work, no commercial or secular scheduling.
- We “Kissed Dating Goodbye”.
- Gave up the newspaper after 20 years.
- Gave up most fiction.

Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house, lest he become weary of you and hate you.

Pb 25:17

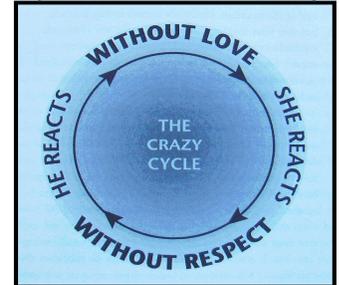




# Practical Parenting

## “How Can I Make My Husband Become The Spiritual Leader?”

1. Realize the spiritual dimension. II Cor 10:4, Eph 6
2. See God and His eternal Word to us as the solution. Heb 4:12
3. See self as part of the problem. (The Crazy Circle idea)
4. Time for a fresh start:
  - A. Prayer: 1. Surrender to God and His ways, 2. Confess sins of anger and unforgiveness, and envy 3. Praise to God for His deliverance Ps 50:23
  - B. Crown your husband as king (leader)
    - > Embrace God’s call—to be a wife, supporter, follower, helper, encourager - “he must increase and I must decrease”
    - > Ask for wisdom daily to defer, honor, praise, die to self, to see husband’s gifts, strengths, sacrifices, and contributions.
    - > Pray for grace to follow husband’s leadership.
    - > Pray for husband: Malachi 4:6
    - > Thank God for answers as they come.
    - > Teach the children to honor their dad: Eph 6:2
      - Praise (not criticize) Dad in front of children
      - Tell them to “ask Dad” for permission, info, and help
      - Teach them thankfulness for / to their Dad
      - “Thanks for going to work for me today, Dad”
    - > Don’t compare him to other husbands: this is the romance story God has called you to. He will do his miracles for you as you bring your situation into His presence. Psalm 91:1 “Is anything too hard for Me?” Gen 18:14
5. What are the guarantees?
  - A. God is with you. Heb 13:5 “I will never leave nor forsake you.”
  - B. God will give you grace. II Cor 12:9, Heb 4:16- “grace to help in time of need.”
  - C. God will give you the WILL to do this. Phil 2:13
  - D. You will reap a harvest. Gal 6:9 “if we faint not.”
  - E. Your husband’s heart is in the hand of the Lord. Pr 21:1-he can be changed!
  - F. God will direct you. Pb 3:5 “acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths.”
  - G. God will be pleased with you.



“...and he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”  
Mal 6:4

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”  
Ps 91:1

Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.  
I Peter 4:1-2

## Hey, I Object ! This isn’t fair. Why do I have to do it all?

- Are you going to disobey God because your husband isn’t obeying God?
- Suffering is part of being a Christian in this fallen world. I Peter 4:1,2
- It is your suffering for doing good that is pleasing to God. I Peter 2:20
- A quiet and gentle spirit is required, it may lead to his conversion.  
“In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any *of them* are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.” I Peter 3:1,2

‘Are you more spiritual than your husband, do you have more faith, are you more gifted, more devoted, more self-controlled? Then use all of your superior spirituality to follow God’s will for you; crowning your husband as the head of the family. And don’t tell me it can’t be done - my mother did it!’ Pastor Jack McMaster See I Peter 4:10

**The Real Romance story you are involved in is not between you and your husband: it is the romance of you and your savior -Jesus Christ.**

