

Raising Parents: Discipline



Hebrews 12:3-17

The Israelites in the Wilderness

Step 1: Reflect

Step 2: Identify

Step 3: Repair It

Rewards and Consequences

	Positive	Negative
Add		
Remove		


TOP TEN

SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES




This might be one of the biggest things you can do to impact your kids' behavior. It will be life changing. For you and for them. Throughout the entire Bible, God gives clear boundaries to His children in order to help them grow and thrive how He designed. Think of boundaries like a fence. You can choose to build a fence for two different reasons. One is to keep bad things OUT. The other is to keep good things IN. The other thing a fence does is it communicates LIMITS to some things and tremendous FREEDOM in others.

Write

 When was a time where you experienced the benefit of having a clear boundary?

Read

 Genesis 2:15-25

One of the first things that God does when He makes Adam is to give him boundaries. Even before He made Eve! As you read, pay attention to the boundaries God gives. Think. Is this to keep something OUT or IN? Is it to communicate LIMITS or FREEDOM?

Try This!


Create some boundaries for your kids. You probably already have some. Think about the boundaries you already have and what ones you might be missing. What is their purpose? Are all of your boundaries for the same purpose? You might need to create some new ones!

Boundary



Purpose

Pray

 Ask God to give you wisdom to create boundaries for the purpose of your kids growing and thriving in the Lord. Not just rules.

TOP TEN

FOLLOW THROUGH



Not following through or keeping your word will be one of the fastest ways to unravel all of your hard work as a parent! From broken trust to disobedience, a lack of follow through will only cause damage. While number 6 on our list, “Setting Clear Boundaries” will make parenting much clearer for both you and your kids, following through will be the one that will lessen the load of parenting and will make it feel like less work!



Read

Matthew 5:33–37

Keeping our word with our kids (and others) is a basic form of honesty. It means that we can be trusted that when we say something, it is and will be true. Matthew 5:37 reveals just how simple it is. “Let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes’ and your ‘No’ be ‘No’.” As parents, this means that when we tell our kids that we will be at their sports game or school performance, we show up. They can count on it to be truth. This also means that when we say that there will be a consequence, that will also be true.



Write

How do you do with following through on your word?



Read

Genesis 2:15–25

When God gave Adam boundaries, He also gave the follow up that would come from those things. Look at verses: 17, 18 and 24. In each case, God explained the result of following (or not following) the boundary. Also in each of these cases, we know that God not only followed through, but when the consequences came, it is purely on Adam– not God! Clearly communicating the boundary and consequence with your kids and then following through takes the responsibility for the result out of your hands and places it in theirs.

Try This!

Come up with a line that you can use that helps the responsibility stay on your kids. It might be something as simple as, “I’m sorry you made that choice.”



Pray

Ask God for the strength to follow through!