



Part 4: A Wock and a Hard Place

If your main goal is your kid's obedience, you're settling for something less than and you're setting yourself up to have anger stirred up regularly. Instead of obedience being the objective, there's a long-term target that will go a long way toward winning as a parent.

Discussion Questions

1. **Read 1 Corinthians 13:5–7** out loud. What stands out to you?
2. Are you easily angered? Do you internalize it or externalize it? Within the context of family, when you're angry, what is it, generally speaking, that you want that you aren't getting?
3. Are you a record keeper, relationally speaking? Do you keep score and on occasion remind folks of the score? If so, what fuels that in you?
4. When it comes to family, what is your North Star? What is the organizing principle in your home? (Obedience? Respect? Achievement? Something else?)
5. If you're a parent with kids still in your home, what can you do differently to parent toward healthy adult relationships with your children?

Moving Forward

Our behavior as Jesus followers should be informed by the command to love as he loved us. Particularly as parents, when you're not sure what to say or do, pause and ask what love requires of you. After all, the most significant thing you do may not be something you do—it may be someone you raise.