

## VARIOUS SCRIPTURES

### PROACTIVE PARENTING (PART 3 - COMBATTING COMMON LIES WITH BIBLICAL TRUTH)

*Proactive parenting requires combating common lies with biblical truth.*

#### I. Goals

- A. "My goal is to avoid being like my parents."
- B. "My goal is to raise my children the way I was raised."
- C. "I just want my children to be happy."
- D. "I just want my children to be successful."

#### II. Parenting

- A. "Parenting should be easy."
- B. "Children should be the priority in the home."
- C. "I should parent with grace and not with law."
- D. "I should avoid lavishly praising or encouraging my children."
- E. "Household management is primarily task-oriented."
- F. "Biblical parenting will result in obedient (or regenerate!) children."

#### III. Behavior

- A. "My child would never..."
- B. "It's okay. They'll grow out of it."
- C. "I can't require obedience from my children if they are unregenerate."
- D. "Keeping strict rules will make children rebel once they leave home."
  - 1. The real problem: unreasonable hypocrisy
  - 2. The simple solution: earned trust
- E. "My children are to blame for my temperament at times."
- F. "If I protect my children from the culture, they will be godly."

<b>Child-Centered Home</b>	<b>God-Centered Home</b>
<p>Where children learn that...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their parents desire their happiness above all else</li> <li>• Interrupting adult conversations is okay</li> <li>• Using manipulation and rebellion are valid means of getting their way</li> <li>• Children dictate the family schedule</li> <li>• Children take precedence over spouse's needs</li> <li>• Children have an equal or overriding vote</li> <li>• Demanding excessive time or attention is okay</li> <li>• Escaping the consequences of sinful and irresponsible behavior is right</li> <li>• Parents are more like peers than authorities</li> <li>• They can be entertained or coddled out of a bad mood</li> <li>• The entire family exists to please him and make him happy</li> </ul>	<p>Where children learn that...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their parents prize pleasing God</li> <li>• Serving others is a joy</li> <li>• Cheerful, immediate obedience is right</li> <li>• Interrupting adults is improper</li> <li>• Manipulation is sinful</li> <li>• They will not always get their way</li> <li>• Parents dictate the family schedule</li> <li>• Their opinions are valued but the home is not a democracy</li> <li>• Parents have other God-given responsibilities</li> <li>• Sin has consequences</li> <li>• Honor towards authority is appropriate</li> <li>• Others' interests are greater than their own</li> <li>• They must contribute to household duties</li> <li>• Dad and Mom function as one flesh in everything</li> <li>• Marriage is superior to relationships between parents and children</li> <li>• Dad and Mom have distinct, God-given roles</li> </ul>

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<sup>1</sup> Chart reproduced and amended from Lou Priolo, *The Heart of Anger: Practical Help for the Prevention and Cure of Anger in Children* (Amityville, NY: Calvary Press, 1997), 24-28.