

The Difference Between Loving Your Family + Idolizing Your Family Part 2

Somer Phoebe

All quotes are from Somer Phoebe unless otherwise noted.

The foundation of parenting is the fear of God.

Pray for wisdom for yourself and wisdom for your kids -- not just to be smart or to have common sense, but to be wise as the Lord calls us to be wise.

Fearing God rightly is wisdom.

In a home where God isn't feared rightly, idolization creeps in.

idols:

- power
- money
- wanting to be the best

It is so easy to place your kid above everything else.

We cannot raise children who expect love and attention above everything else.

We can't love our children so much that we love them more than God.

Idolizing our kids begets extreme parenting.

Anything that you idolize will make you behave in extremes.

You are not in control —> be a peace maker.

Peacemakers are neutral in action even when biased in thoughts and feelings.

Take time to meet with the Lord before you meet with your kids.

Matthew 5:9 - Sermon on the Mount

The way you respect outside the home should be just scratching the surface to the way you respect inside the home.

Good kids are not the result of perfect parenting.

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Take wisdom from other people the same way you parent - with open hands.

Parenting keep you on your toes and dependent on the Lord.

Tip #1: Discipline on the front end.

A sassy three year old is cute, but a sassy 22 year old is not cute.

Discipline is difficult.

Timeout is better than the principal's office.

Tip #2: Conversations always win over lectures.

Your chances of being tuned out is greater when you're always talking.

As kids get older, it is natural for them to ask questions and doubt.

Do not be discouraged when your kids ask questions.

Listen more than you speak.

Conversation #1: gifting roles vs. gender roles.

See them as unique individuals with a unique set of gifts.

God didn't abracadabra you, He knit you. What a labor of love!

Conversation #2: call out Satan's lies.

Satan takes what is good and twists it.

Reframe your thinking through an external perspective.

Conversation #3: assume the best always.

Be careful how you talk in front of your kids. If you are always criticizing others, your kids will learn to criticize too.

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Conversation #4: you are allowed and encouraged to love people who are different than you and who believe different than you.

We are on mission.

If you want your kid to love people the way Jesus loved people, teach them to love everyone.

Love them right to the arms of Jesus.

Conversation #5: discernment and the Holy Spirit

Make space for your husband. They will fill the space that is open.

Do not criticize your husband's parenting or treat him like a baby-sitter.

You can't make a decision right enough that will set your kids up for success for life. You can't make a decision wrong enough that will screw them up for life. You don't have that much control.

Go to the Lord more than you go to parenting books, podcasts, etc.

Parenting is not one size fits all.

Psalm 127:4

Aim your children so that they are on a trajectory to chase the Lord.