



Session 2

Big Idea:

Best parenting style according to science.

GROUP OPENER

Share something that the people who raised you were very good at.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read Proverbs 22:6 & Proverbs 16 Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible – everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience? How should it affect the way I live?

August 18
WEEKEND

ACTION STEPS

I will statement...

- Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. Put it in the form, "I Will _____". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable. Share your "I Will" statement with the group.

As a Group

In the sermon, this spectrum of parenting styles was shared.

←Authoritarian ---- Authoritative ---Permissive -->

Which describes your parents or grandparents' style, strict or soft? No need for explanation or detail.

The authoritative part of the spectrum is scientifically proven to be the best style for passing on values and faith.

Authoritative Style

- High on expectations AND high on warmth
- High on discipline AND high on emotional responsiveness
- Caring but not indulging
- Sets clear boundaries but encourages freedom within
- Firm in convictions but flexible in applications

Spend some time giving practical examples from your experience on ways you have seen the authoritative parenting style practiced.

We as humans, both parents and children are sinners. When have you seen an authority figure admit to failure, work to change behaviors, and attempt to restore what was harmed through the bad behavior?

Christians believe that our brokenness or sin requires us to confess, repent, and work to resolution. Discuss practical ways you can model this sequence in new ways.

On Your Own

Regardless of your parenting season, read the following Proverbs this week.

What is "the right way"?

- Diligence and industriousness (6:6-11; 11:27; 12:24; 13:4; 15:19; 18:9; 19:24; 20:4, 13; 21:5; 22:13; 26:13-16)
- Justice (11:1; 16:11; 17:23; 20:10, 23; 31:8-9)
- Kindness (11:17)
- Generosity (11:24; 19:6)
- Self-control of speech (12:18; 13:3; 21:23)
- Self-control of temper (14:17, 29; 15:18; 16:32; 19:11)
- Righteousness (12:21, 28; 14:34)
- Truthfulness and honesty (12:22; 16:13; 24:26)
- Discretion in choosing friends (13:20; 18:24)
- Discretion in choosing spouse (18:22; 31:10-31)
- Caution and prudence (14:16; 27:12)
- Gentleness (15:1, 4)
- Contentment (15:16-17; 16:8; 17:1)
- Integrity of character (15:27; 28:18)
- Humility (16:19; 18:12; 22:4)
- Graciousness (16:24)
- Forthrightness (16:30; 17:20)
- Restraint (17:14, 27-28; 18:6-7; 29:20)
- Friendship (17:17)
- Purity (20:9; 22:11)
- Pursuit of what is good and right (20:29)
- Skillfulness in work (22:29)
- Patience (25:15)