

Introduction –

From “Leave it to Beaver” to “Beevis & Butthead”

- Your Child’s World is . . .
- A Parent’s Challenge is . . .
- The Question We’re all Asking is . . .

Four Principles for Positive Parenting

1. Positive parenting begins with positive

_____ - _____ _____ !

Fathers, don’t overcorrect your children or make it difficult for them to obey the commandment. Bring them up with Christian teaching in Christian discipline.

Ephesians 6:4 (Phillips)

- The Principle of Focus
- God’s Dream vs. The American Dream for Your Child

2. Positive parenting demands we _____ what we _____ .

¹⁴I am not writing this to shame you, but to warn you, as my dear children. ¹⁵Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel. ¹⁶Therefore I urge you to imitate me.

1 Corinthians 4:14-16 (NIV)

- The Principle of Modeling

- “More is Caught Than Taught”

3. Positive parents build relationships that _____ .

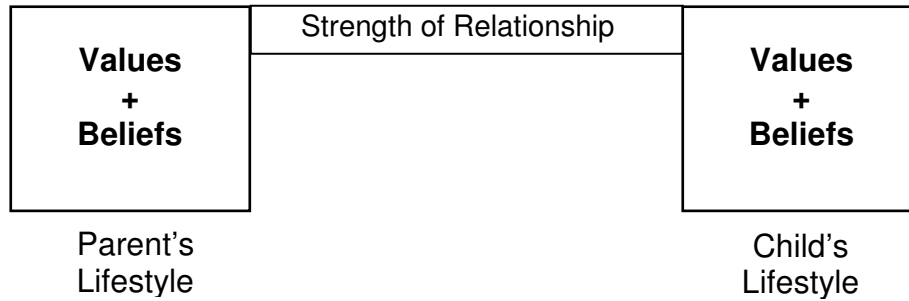
⁷but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. ⁸We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.

1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 (NIV)

¹¹For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, ¹²encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 (NIV)

- The Principle of Relationship



8 “Keys” That Build Relationships That Bond

1. Unconditional Love
2. Scheduled _____
3. Focused Attention
4. _____ Contact
5. Ongoing Communication
6. Meaningful _____
7. Have _____ Together
8. _____ Together Often

4. Positive parenting requires _____ and _____ .

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

- The Principle of Process
- 5 Powerful Words = _____ !
and _____ !
- It's Never Too Late!

Discussion Questions

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how positive of a parent are you?
2. Discuss which point was most helpful to you. Why?
3. Where do you need to focus some parenting energy? What specifically will the next step look like?