

GRACE BASED parenting

VIDEO SERIES

Building Character

Session 1

A black and white photograph showing the silhouettes of a parent and a child standing on a beach, looking out at the ocean. The parent is on the left, taller, and the child is on the right, shorter. The background is a bright, hazy view of the sea and sky.

A Comprehensive
Plan for Parenting
on Purpose

Introduction

- We have a fixed amount of time in which to equip our children for the future.

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Psalm 90:12

- We need to be deliberate and determined when it comes to raising kids who turn out right.

I. God has left a comprehensive plan for raising truly great kids based on the power of His _____.

A. Grace based parenting is simply treating your children the way God treats His.

- God sees His children's truest needs

- God recognizes His children's deepest longings

- God understands His children's greatest challenges
- God envisions His children's highest potential

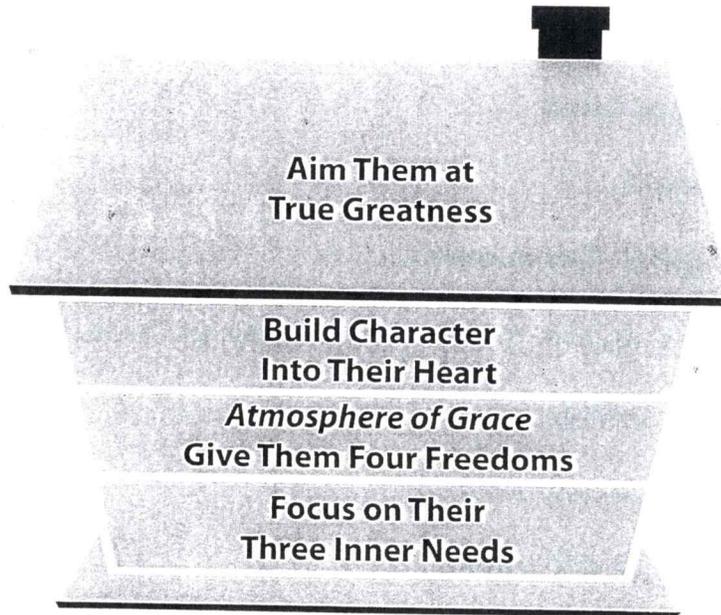
By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds.

1 Corinthians 3:10

- B. Grace based parenting uses these same priorities as four strategies to build the inner core of truly great kids.

The Big Picture of the Grace Based Plan for Parenting.

II.



II. The comprehensive plan for grace-based parenting serves us much like a _____ serves a contractor.

- A. It helps us raise kids who turn out right by raising them from the inside out.
- B. It helps us build good decision-making skills into our children's lives.
- C. It helps our children commit to noble life goals, such as:
 - Loving and obeying God
 - Loving their spouse
 - Loving their children
 - Being a good friend
 - Working hard
 - Investing their lives in others
- D. It helps them learn how to execute strong survival skills, such as:
 - Living on a budget
 - Finishing what they start
 - Getting along with others
 - Resolving conflict
 - Standing alone if necessary
 - Repenting and forgiving
- E. It focuses on building their character.

A Comprehensive Plan for Parenting on Purpose

III. The comprehensive plan for grace-based parenting has many

- A. Our purpose is clearer.
- B. Our children are more confident.
- C. Our strategy is complete.
- D. Our priorities are challenged.

Conclusion

- Focusing on our child's three inner needs within an atmosphere of grace makes it easier to build character into their hearts.
- We need to use the time we have left with our children and the authority God has given us to build six character traits into our children's hearts.

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Making This Yours

Getting It Started

1. Do you think your parents had an intentional or unintentional plan for raising you? How do you think that worked for them?
2. Do you feel like you have been deliberate so far in raising your children? If so, how do you think your kids have benefited? If not, have you had any doubts or anxiety that could have been minimized with a deliberate plan?

A Comprehensive Plan for Parenting on Purpose

3. What is it about Tim's brief overview of a grace-based plan for parenting that is attractive to you?
4. Tim gave us a list of life goals that are part of a comprehensive plan for grace based parenting. Which ones do you feel you are doing a fairly good job of transferring to your kids by your example? On which ones would you like to make some improvement? How are you going to get started?

Life Goals

- Loving and obeying God
- Loving their spouse
- Loving their children
- Being a good friend
- Working hard
- Investing their lives in others

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Taking It Deeper

1. Take a look at Deuteronomy 6: 5-9 and flesh out the commands here with everyday scenarios. What does it mean in your home to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength? How does this type of model affect your kids? How are you carrying out the commands in verses 7-9 in a twenty first century way?

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:5-9

A Comprehensive Plan for Parenting on Purpose

2. The apostle Paul has a special word for fathers (this can also be applied to moms) in Ephesians 6:4. In what ways do you think parenting without a clear plan exasperates our children? How does the content of this session fulfill the command in the second part of the verse?

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

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Bringing It Home

1. If you found out today that you had only one year to live, what are three things you would want to make sure your child learned from you?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

How are you going to get started on these right now?

2. As you look at the list of survival skills that Tim mentioned, what are some practical ways to teach them to your children?

Strong Survival Skills

- Living on a budget
- Finishing what they start
- Getting along with others
- Resolving conflict
- Standing alone if necessary
- Repenting and forgiving

