

# *Child Discipline*



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Discipline*

**By Hettie Lue Brooks**

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# *Chapter 1:*

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## **What does God expect of us as parents?**

What does the Bible say about child discipline? What are our standards as Christians for rearing our children? Where do we get our know-how? Where do we get our direction?

As a young mother, I got mine from Dr. Spock, child psychology classes in college and the great intellectual psychiatrists and psychologists of the day. I read all their books.

For the first two years of my child's life, I produced a

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monster. Thank the Lord, God rescued me. I was tormented with my child.

We're going to be honest here within our own souls. We're going to look at some things I believe are meant to set us free, to really set us free.

I'm going to be teaching you about kids.



# *Chapter 2*

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## **The Importance of Relationship**

Today, if I'm talking to them, they're going to listen or I don't talk. It's just that simple because the number one thing in dealing with children is relationship. It's the first thing that anybody on the face of this earth is after. The basis for all of life has to do with relationships.

If we've got good ones, we're happy. If we've got bad ones, we're miserable.

If we've got good relationships in life, we've got a good life. If we've got bad relationships, it makes people miserable.

If I ask you what's wrong with you – is it your kid, your mother, your daddy, your mother-in-law, your father-in-law, your aunt, your uncle across the street?

Man, you've got problems and it's with *somebody*. Those are the problems that pain us most.

Yes, we might worry over our finances and yes, we may have problems in areas of health and so forth, but the problems that cause us the greatest grief have to do with *relationships*.

So, when we talk about your child, we're going to talk about your *relationship* to your child.

If you're a Sunday School teacher, we're not talking about you going in and teaching the kids all about Moses. We're talking about your relationship with your class.

One of the reasons I wanted to teach about child discipline at my church is because someone went in to teach a Sunday school class and came out saying, "Those are the worst kids I've ever seen. I mean, they're terrible. That's the worst bunch of kids I've ever seen."

But I just had the very same kids in a class on Friday and you know what I came out saying? "Those kids are the best I've ever seen in my life. I mean, they are the neatest, the most respectful, the most wonderful."

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Now, three days later, someone goes in and says, “They’re just incorrigible! They’re just the worst kids I’ve ever seen.”

What’s the difference? The difference was the relationship between the leader and the kids.

I want you to know that kids are whatever we let them be. Let them be – and that’s what you’ll get. They tend to revert closer to the animal kingdom than to human civilization when they are unattended, when they are not instructed and when there is no relationship.

I don’t believe in evolution, but kids seem to revert to monkeys. They’re just demonstrating to us their need to be born again, to be renewed, to come into the new life in Jesus Christ.

If we begin to talk about your children, it’s probably the thing that can cause you more pain than anything. I might talk about your husband or your wife. I could talk about your in-laws. I could talk about anything and get by with it better than I could talk about your children.

Most parents are that way. We can handle almost anything better than we can handle someone getting onto our child’s case. We’re super-sensitive when it comes to our

children. We just are. The reason we are is because we love our children. We're so close to our children.

We need to talk about the perversion of this love when a parent feels guilty because he or she doesn't love them.

So, I want to cover how we as parents face our children with this idea of, "I just love them so much. *I just love them so much.*"

You've had people ask: "Honey, why don't you make that kid behave?" "Sweetie, why don't you make that kid sit down?" "Honey, why don't you tell those kids what they need to do?"

You may have heard me ask: "Honey, why don't you whip that child? Why don't you spank that child, according to the word of God? Why don't you do that?"

And your answer?

"Oh, Hettie, I just love them so much. I mean, I cannot stand to see my child cry."

OK, parents, we're going to have a little confessing-up time. How many of you would confess that it's been painful for you to see your children cry or to be unhappy?

My hand's the first one up. See, we don't like that.

You may defend yourself, "I just don't like to see my child cry or be unhappy."

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Why? Why? *Why?*

It all has to do with our own sense of fear. It has to do with our own sense of perverted love. We say, “I just love him so much.”

Well, my daddy taught me when I took my two-year-old to his house.

“Hettie, I hate to see you coming. I mean, your kid is a monster,” he said. “He’s the one who gives you an ulcer. I’m a candidate for an ulcer when your kid comes in my house.”

This incorrigible two-year-old today is a pastor and church leader – Tim Brooks, my oldest son.

Daddy said, “Hettie, you know, everybody’s miserable when Tim is around. For Tim Brooks to come to your house, everybody’s miserable. You can’t do anything with him.”

Well, I read the Dr. Spock book and it said, ‘Talk to him. Don’t throttle their creativity. Explain to them. It’s uncivilized and savage to spank. Nobody uses physical punishment now. That was back in the Dark Ages, you know, back when people were ignorant.’”

When I went through college, they equated physical discipline with ignorance. If there is anything I did not want

to be, I did not want to be ignorant. So, therefore, I did not want to beat on my child like the savages, the cannibals did.

So, in my sophisticated education, I let my little monster give the world an ulcer.

Daddy with his sixth grade education had amassed quite a sum of wealth. He was a very intelligent man. He knew how to make money. But with his sixth grade education, he had the wisdom of Solomon.

Daddy told me that what I had for my child was not love but self-love.

I was protecting myself by not spanking my child. I was actually protecting *myself* from hurt. If I truly, indeed, did love my child, Daddy told me, I would do what was best for Tim.

So it was an awesome thing for me to see that I had to equate spanking with love.

Now we're living in a generation that is now changing. You know, you're hearing, "Tough love." Now you're hearing people talking about, um, "Doing this because I love you love."

I went through the Dr. Spock era where you weren't hearing any of that. Daddy was a crusader and a pioneer.

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He knew it was true in the 1930's, and he figured I needed it in the 1950's for Tim.

So, I began to look at myself and discover that, in fact, I could not stand to see Tim cry.

It was too painful for me.

I did begin to deal with the fact that I was protecting myself, doing what was convenient for myself with my children. I was looking for a way easier for me. Then I began to deal with true self love. It changed everything for me.

It changed *everything* for me.

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# *Chapter 3:*

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## **Take responsibility for your child**

Understand beyond the shadow of a doubt that you are having to face self-love in your home.

Now, it may not be that your self-love would be spanking them. It may be that your self-love is your distracted attitude. You truly are loving yourself so much – and not spanking your child – because you are ignoring that child.

Some parents do. They're escaping from the responsibility of their child. When the child misbehaves, they just look the other way.

A Sunday school teacher can go in and teach all about Moses without a relationship. That Sunday school teacher can go in and judge whether the kids are good or bad and tell everybody, “Hey, they’re bad,” or, “Hey, they’re good,” but actually miss the whole point of relationship.

They miss the whole point.

They have no relationship with those children.

When people come to one of my child discipline seminars, they throng around me and say, “Hettie, teach me what to do with my kid!”

“Well, in order to teach you what to do with your kid, I have to teach you what to do with yourself.

“I have to teach you what to do with *yourself*.”

“Well, I don’t want that, I just want you to tell me what to do with them.”

But to do something with them means that you do something with yourself.

So it takes a parent who will really be honest to say, “I cannot allow my child to eat Hershey bars and drink Cokes and eat French fries three meals a day all their life.

“I just can’t do it. I’m responsible for their health.”

We understand the health part, and so we finagle and

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we play airplanes and we zoom around to get a stick of broccoli into their mouth and we stand on our heads and entertain them into eating their green beans. We knock our brains out to scoop up a little of something that's good for them – and get it going down them.

But when it comes to behavior, somehow, we have not been convinced that a child's behavior is just as important to his health.

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# *Chapter 4:*

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## **Healthy behavior patterns**

I want to talk to you about your child's health because your child's health is going to have a lot to do with his behavior patterns.

Children who are not disciplined are nervous children.

Children who are not controlled are hyper.

I cannot tell you how many kids we've had, especially in the last five, six years, who come with their tranquilizers and medications. Bottles and bottles and bottles come as parents bring their children and drop them off at camp

and say, “Hettie, I’ve taken my child to the doctor. My child is a hyperactive child and he has to take this tranquilizer two or three times a day.”

I smile and think, “Oh, God, here’s a very intelligent and bright and active child, that if a momma and a daddy had just given to themselves the first four or five or six years his life and kept up with him and stayed right there and spanked him and paddled him and stayed right on top of him – well, by the time he was six, he would’ve been free from all that.”

Instead, now the child’s on prescription drugs.

See, now, when I talk to you about spanking, there plenty of people who spank and who still have nervous children.

“Well,” they say, “Hettie, you said if I disciplined my child, they wouldn’t be nervous. I spank my child all the time and they’re still a nervous wreck all the time.”

We’re going to talk about what kind of spankings work.

Everything that a child receives in the way of discipline stems from a parent’s emotional attitudes.

Let’s say you’re just so angry with them. You’re intolerant. You’re trying to watch TV and that kid keeps getting in your way and you keep knocking him out of the way. You keep banging him around, knocking him on the head, throw-

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ing your shoe at him, you know, having a fit. Your attitudes are transferred to your child.

“Hettie,” you say, “I’ve done everything! I beat him, I hit him, I knocked him, I did the whole works and look, he keeps coming back.”

He’s going to keep coming back until one day you notice him. He will always keep coming back. He will take a bruise upside the head. He will take anything you will give, but he cannot be ignored.

He can’t.

He just can’t.

He’s after a relationship with you.

He needs a relationship. He’s crying out, “Mommy, here I am.”

He’ll stand there and be so obnoxious you could kill him. You just want to beat his brains out. I mean, you know, that violent thing that people get into?

Why, they just get terrible with their kids.

If anything can get people violent, it’s their children. Do you know how many children get taken in for child abuse? Thousands and thousands.

*Thousands and thousands.*

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Children have a way of provoking parents. How in the world could a child provoke a parent to that kind of anger?

It's all because of the lost condition of the parent.

The mental emotional torment of that parent is evident to the child.



# Chapter 5:

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## **What does God expect of us as parents?**

Now, we're going to talk about things children know about their parents.

Things that kids know about *you*.

There's no deceiving them.

They know about us.

I want to get into that.

But as we look at – at kinds of discipline – you can't say spanking is the answer. You can't say locking them in a room is the answer. You can't say sending them to bed with-

out supper is the answer. The answer is the emotional health that a parent walks in – that place where a parent is full of wisdom from God.

And *love*.

That place where a parent has given their time and attention to that child.

I'm going to show you that there's no way that you can have healthy children short-cutting it.

We'd just love it if we could just sleep until they're 18. Parents are always saying, "Oh, if I could just get them past two! Oh, if I could just get them past the terrible twos. If I could just get them into the tranquil threes and, you know, the even years or if I could just get them past this age!"

Listen, I've got news for you.

If they live past the twos, they're eventually going to be 13. Some of you who have 13-year-olds, you know what I'm talking about.

If they live past 13, they're going to be 15.

If they live past 15, they're going to be 16.

If they live past 16, they're going to be 18. If they live past 18, they're going to be 20.

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Then, you think you get rid of them, but no, you don't.

*No you won't.*

Not forever. You're stuck – I mean, you're blessed.  
You're blessed. You're *blessed*.

I want to talk to you about a discipline that's full of  
love. It's full of consistency.

It's always positive.

It's always in control. I want to read to you Proverbs  
22: 15 from the New American Standard.

Aren't ya'll going to love this?

Oh, you're going to love it!

*“Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child. The  
rod of discipline will remove it far from him.”*

You need to mark that scripture.

These people who say, “Little children, they're all just  
born innocent. They don't learn sin. They don't learn to be  
negative until they're taught that.”

Well, put two nine-month-olds down together. Put *one*  
*toy* between them – and they have never seen their mother  
or daddy fight over a toy. Not one time have they seen it.

But there's something in them that knows how to fight  
over that one toy. There's something in them, when they

get to be a year old that knows how to fight for their own selfish interests.

There's something in them that tells them to go for *I, me* and *mine*.

So, we are talking about how foolishness comes bound up in the heart of a child. The sin that comes to us from Adam. *Sin that we inherit from the law of Adam.*

I've seen parents wonder, "Man, I don't know how I got you, you're the – you're just the worst kid! Why couldn't I have got the sweet little kid next door?"

And that kid's saying, "Boy, if I'd had the kid's parents next door, then I'd be different, you know."

Sometimes the kids are wishing for different parents just as we're wishing for different kids.

We need to understand that foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child. They come that way.

They *come* that way.

The Bible says, "But the rod of correction will drive that stupidity, that foolishness far from him."

I tell you, kids are doing some dumb things nowadays. Talk about stupidity. Committing suicide at 13 is stupid. Becoming an alcoholic at 14, that's stupid.

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Becoming a dope addict and sniffing cocaine and shooting up hard drugs – that’s stupid.

It is really stupid.

The way they drive and the way they do the weird, way out, crazy foolish things. Why? The greater the permissiveness in a society, the more the foolishness among children and teenagers.

The more we allow our children to do their own thing permissively, then the more foolish our children will become.

The Bible tells us that if we spare the rod, we are going to spoil that child.

To spoil means to ruin.

To *ruin* that child.

The Bible says that if you beat him with the rod, he will not die. I love that, that’s my favorite scripture: *If you beat him with the rod, he will not die.*

In other words, parents, quit worrying and being afraid of discipline. Don’t fear discipline that knows when to spank and when not to spank. Discipline that knows when to take authority and when not to take authority.



# *Chapter 6:*

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## **The breaking of rebellion**

Now, let's look at a situation. Here's a parent who has a child. They throw up their hands. The child is two years old.

"I've done everything," they wail.

I mean, their hair's standing up on end. They're wringing their hands.

"Hettie, I've whipped, I've beat, I've done everything. I've denied him this, I won't let him have the choo-choo train. I mean, I've done it all. I don't know what else to do

and look, look at 'im, look at 'im! He's – he's pulling the curtains off the wall. RIGHT NOW, RIGHT NOW! He's pulling the curtains down the wall!

“I've done everything!”

I mean, you cannot believe the parents that I have been with who in all honesty feel that they have done everything.

“I do not know what else to do. I've spanked. I've done this. I've done that.”

I say to them, “What have you done consistently? What have you done over a period of time?”

There's not a child on the face of this earth who does not need have to have their spirit of rebellion broken.

Children come self-willed.

We come that way.

It has to be broken. You know what child psychology taught me? “Oh, you're going to break that child's spirit! Oh, you're going to break their spirit!”

Have some children had their spirit broken?

Oh, yes. *Oh, yes.* I've seen abused children whose spirits have been broken. Everything has its extreme. But the spirit of rebellion when a child stands in your face and says, “This



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is what I'm going to do, and you can't stop me." Now, that's different than a child forgetting things.

A lot of parents spank at the wrong time.

A lot of parents hit a child because they can't remember to pick up their socks, and they can't remember to do other things.

But that's a process.

"Rememberers" have to be trained. That's a process of the parent saying, "Honey, pick them up," again and again and again.

You training them.

The reason it makes us so mad is we don't want to train them. We want to tell them once and then they just do it obediently from now on.

"I don't want to mess with them. I want them to be obedient and do what I tell them."

But there are things children cannot remember. They have to be trained. Their attention span is too short.

That's different than a spirit of defiance and rebellion.

Do you understand the difference between the forgetfulness of a little child versus defiance and rebellion?

Do you know the difference?

Have you experienced defiance and rebellion? It's there, isn't it? That's right. It's there. If you have a child, you've experienced.

We've all experienced when they just do whatever you tell them. And then, we've also had the opposite

"Don't touch that again," and they stand there and touch it – in complete defiance.

"Don't go out that door!" *Stomp!* And they're out the door. We've all had that – when they're determined to do their thing.

It's that spirit of rebellion that has to be broken. Some of you have a 13-year-old you wish you had broken when they were little.

You didn't and so you ask: "What do I do now?"

I want you to know now that if you break the spirit of rebellion when they're little, it will save you untold tears when they're 12 and 13.

Or now, these days, when they're 11.

It will save you untold tears if you've broken that spirit of rebellion.

You will have spanked them. You will have disciplined them. And you know, when they're 12 or 13, they have no

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memory of it. They're just obedient. They just do it because you said to.

"Honey, go close that door."

"Yes, ma'am." They close it.

"Hey, sweetie, would you set the table?"

"Yes, ma'am."

And they do it.

And other parents are amazed.

When they tell their kids to set the table, all they hear is "I don't want to, you set it yourself!"

They say, "Sweetie, would you take out the trash?"

"No," answers the child. "I took it out the last time, and it's time for Susie to take it out! I'm not gonna take it out again, because it's her turn to take it out!"

You know, I – I'd squash their heads, I'm sure.

My daddy taught me so good. My daddy taught me that children are to be submissive to their parents and to adults.

It's not uncommon for me to have 200 kids at my house during summer camp.

They don't talk when I talk.

Nor do I allow them to sit out there and not communicate with me.

The first day they show up at camp, many of them lay all over the pavilion floor. A good number of them get in the back rows and hide behind people.

I call to them: "Hey, come on kids!"

They are accustomed to being overlooked. They're used to it. They're used to nobody noticing that they're there.

They're accustomed to not communicating.

When someone talks, it never occurs to them that we're going to converse -- one-on-one, both of us.

They've never been taught that. When someone talks, it's their signal to turn us off. They hide.

After all, listening is painful, it's work. Listening is devastating unless there's communication. Only when there is communication does listening become exciting.

But when listening has in it communication, it's different.

As I talk with them, I'm looking for every face. I look for everybody. I intend to communicate with each of them.

I'm reading where you're coming from.

I'm seeing what you're thinking. I communicate with people. I read you. I don't overlook people. I know there

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are lots of ministers that preach to the ceiling and lots of people who talk to the floor.

But I believe in reaching down in the heart to communicate. The reason I do that to adults is because I've learned to do it with children.

Adults have a real hard time with me because I'm always after them.

I am determined to communicate.

I want to have a relationship.



# *Chapter 7:*

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## **What's wrong with these kids?**

We wonder why our kids don't want come to church. We wonder why our kids are not interested in spiritual things.

I remember when I was in the ninth grade.

I'd always been a very obedient child. But I started hanging around with this girl in ninth grade.

Our principal had been fired. We were just acting like wild Indians, you know. You know, the whole school was just bonkers.

So, in one of my classes, the teacher slapped us.

The girl sitting next to me says, “Well! My mother will be up here tomorrow.”

I liked what she said, and I said, “Me too!”

And she says to the teacher: “And my daddy will come up here. You’ll be sorry you did that!”

I liked that. I declared, “Me too!”

Everything she said, I said, “Me too!”

So she says, “You just wait, I’m going to go home and tell my parents, and boy, I tell you, tomorrow they’ll be up here and you will be in trouble.”

So, I went home and I said, “Daddy! A teacher slapped me today!”

“What did she slap you for, honey?”

I wasn’t doing anything.”

So, he said, “Well, what did she slap you for?”

“Well, I don’t know what she slapped us for,” I responded. “I wasn’t doing anything.”

So, he says, “I’m going to tell you one thing. If you ever get slapped in school again, I’m going to whip you until you can’t sit down.”



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I said, “Well, Daddy, I thought maybe you’d go up and talk to her about it.”

“I certainly will. And I’ll tell her to slap you on the other side of the cheek. Nobody gets slapped for nothing. I’m not going up there except to thank her for trying to make a human being out of my daughter. I’m not going to go up there except to tell her to make you behave yourself.”

“Well,” I said, “you don’t need to go, Daddy, that’s OK.”

He said, “And furthermore, in the morning, I want you to go in and apologize to her and tell her that you’re very sorry that you acted disrespectfully.

“Tell her that she can depend on you the rest of the time that you’re in her class to behave yourself, and that you will be a woman of integrity.”

I went trembling the next day.

Here came my little girlfriend with her mother and daddy just marching up there. They came in and just reamed that teacher out.

I went in, just weak-kneed and white-faced and said, “I’m sorry.”

That girl dropped out of school the next year. She never finished high school. I finished and went on to college.

The parents' attitude makes such a difference.

Why should she go to school? They're all dumb up there, anyway. She knew more than they did.

Her parents knew more than the teachers did.

Nobody could make her do anything.

And look where her parents' attitude got her!

**HETTIE: Editing stops here. Are we on track? Is this what you want? I need your OK to continue if we are headed in the correct direction.**

## *Chapter 8:*

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### **Having kids can be so wonderful!**

Probably the Christian school is one of the greatest and one of the most exciting things that have happened to me. Where children can be disciplined and controlled and they can act like human beings and they can be taught to sit down and you know, come to one of our chapel services on Fridays – the most exciting thing. You'll find children acting like human beings, it's just wonderful. I mean, it's just wonderful. It's just absolutely wonderful.

You know, there is a way when you control your child and discipline them through a relationship. You must ask

yourself in every situation, “Am I dealing with my child out of relationship?” If not, you might find yourself dealing with your child out of anger. You might find yourself dealing with your child out of a headache. You might find yourself dealing with your child out of intolerance. You might find yourself dealing with your child out of habit. Out of habit. You see, your judge for disc – for your children – is that you always deal with your child out of relationship.

Now, it’s very important that you always keep understanding going. “Honey? C’mere. Let’s go spank you.” This is as they get old enough to discuss. “I’m going to spank you because – lemme tell you something. I’m going to make a man of God out of you, I’m going to make you a woman of God.” Word pictures are tools in your hands. Word pictures are some of the most important things that I could ever teach you or tell you.

Now, I spanked Tim and I mean, I spanked him hard. I will ne – he was very strong-willed. He was very aggressive and dominating, and oh, and just nerve-racking. One time, I mean, he was so hard-headed, he was so hard-headed – and one time, you know, I took a strap, and I mean, I gave it to him. Well, when I looked at those big welts on

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his legs, I didn't seem to think maybe I used wisdom. That looked a little hard, you know.

And he had a little room in the back of the house that had little windows in it. I saw him back there with these little welts up and down his leg, and he was going [sobbing sounds]. He – [Tape breaks here abruptly.] – stepped on his little shelf and got the Vicks salve down. He got out the Vicks salve [sobbing sounds], and I stood there with tears running down my face as I watched the little thing [sobbing sounds].

And he was little, he was just so little and his legs – I mean, he was older, but he was just a little boy. It took him a while to grow up, you know. Here were these, here were these big – in a lot of ways, and here were these welts on him.

And when he got that Vicks salve bottle out – that just about did me in, you know, I thought – I just stood there and cried. That baby just rubbing – that's the only medicine we knew to use, was Vicks salve. So he's rubbing it – but I'm going to tell you something, I never had trouble with him in that area, ever again. You know?

I'm not recommending child beating. But these people that say, "I whip him, I whip him, I whip him." You just give

him one good one in ten – instead of ten peckings. You just give them a good one and mean it. Then sit there with them, and see if they understand it and get it. They understand it and they get it.

“Honey, mother spanked you because I’m not going to let you be a turkey.” I mean, you can use descriptive words that will be very great tools in your hands. “I’m not going to let you grow up to let you be an ungodly man. Mother and Daddy are going to make you grow up to be a man. You’re going to be a man, Tim Brooks, you stand up here!”

Why, Tim saw somebody want a cookie, one time. And, we went to a kid’s house, and he wanted a cookie and his mother said no, and that kid fell down on the floor and frothed at the mouth and kicked, and did all kinds of things and – we hadn’t any more gotten up, and Tim says, “I want a cookie,” and I says, “No.” And he got down in the floor. And he started that slobbering at the mouth and frothing all over everywhere.

I looked down at him. You know, that’s terrible. That’s terrible to see a kid acting like an animal. [Unitcha, the thing. ??] I mean, that’s terrible. Why, I jerked him up there, and I mean, I shook him ‘til his teeth rattled. I said, “You stand up here.” I started popping him up and down his legs. I popped him. I mean, I was just all over him.

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I said, “The very idea of you acting like a turkey, you stand up here, if you think you’re going to be a monkey in this house. Why, the very idea, I wouldn’t dare think of letting you froth at the mouth and act like an ignoramus. You stand up here! You’re going to be a man of God.” I shook him good, and his little head was just rattling all over the place.

I said, “You’re not going to do that anymore.” I said, “Why you look so tacky. Oh!” I said, “That just looked tacky, you looked like a fungus.”

He didn’t know what that was.[More laughter from audience.]a larva. [Slurping noises.] He knew that I meant business and he knew that he better not do that. I not only whipped him, but I painted word pictures that showed him that God had something better for him than that. I that wasn’t going to sit here and let him be reduced to that.

And he got through, and he said, “Well, so-and-so did that.”

I said, “You’re not so-and-so. Don’t you ever forget it.”

“Well, so-and-so.”

“You – we’re the Brookses. [Well these, my kids don’t give me, ?] ‘Everybody’s doing it’ – no, everybody’s not

doing it. You're not doing it. No, everybody's not doing it, you're not doing it. You're the Brookses. Stand up here and be a Brooks. Stand up here and make something out of yourself. Stand up here and act like a human being. Stand up here and get your remotions under control, the very idea."

Why, I tell you, I have seen kids so emotionally disturbed because the parent starts with discipline and backs up. They start in and then they quit right in the middle. They don't know whether to, or whether not to.

"Here, honey, put your shoe on."

"Naaahhhh! Aaaahhhh! I donwantado tha!"

"Here, daughter, put it on!"

"Naahhhh-waahhh!"

"Well."

And the parent stands there for 15 minutes trying to decide, "Am I going to do it or am I not going to do it?" Make up your mind before you ever tell them. If you tell them to put it on and you sit that kid down there and you get that shoe on there. You get that shoe on that kid.

You know, this business of a – of a child talking back to their parents, I don't understand that. I don't understand –



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“I’m not going to do it!” Why, I can’t believe that a child would s – I mean, I can’t believe that a child would say – “Take out the garbage.” – “I’m not going to do it, take it yourself!” We can’t let it happen, parents. We cannot let it happen. We cannot let it happen.

“You do not talk to your mother that way. You do not talk to your daddy that way. I’m your father. You don’t talk to me that way, honey. Wait just a minute. You don’t talk to me that way. You don’t ever talk to me that way. I’m your mother.

Listen, I’ll tell you. When they’re three years old and they start talking back to you, you stop it right then. Guess what? When they’re 13, you’ll never have to say that to them. You will never have to say that to them – “You don’t talk back to me.” They’ll never even know they can. You know? They’ll never even know that it is a – a, a possibility. You stop it then.

Now, if you haven’t stopped it, tomorrow night we’re going to get into teenager things. What do you do? When they’ve already started it? How do you back up on something? So I want to talk about something.

Right now, just look at God’s word just a minute with me. Proverbs.ya’ll know in two nights, I’m not going to

get anywhere but just whet your appetite. Proverbs 15:5. I'm talking the word of God to you now, and I'm talking to you about the standards of Christianity. I'm talking to you about God's standards.

Proverbs 15:5. "A fool rejects his father's discipline. But he who regards reproof is prudent." A fool rejects his father's wisdom, but he who regards reproof is prudent. I tell you, when you raise up a – an obedient, disciplined child. You could raise up a child that's at peace. You're going to raise up a child where you've got some joy in your household.

How many of you – I'm not asking you to tell on yourself – how many of you have ever been into a home that you felt that the atmosphere of that home was unhappy? Have any of you ever been in an unhappy household? That's probably the saddest thing I can think of. You've got one life down here on this earth. We've got one life, we're passing through, and to have a – that is unhappy, would be probably one of the biggest, most devastating experiences that a person could ever have.

You know, when I found out I couldn't change Don Brooks. When I couldn't change what I thought was making my home so unhappy, God said, "Change yourself and you'll get happy. Change yourself. Change the one you can

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change. You can't change Joh – Don, change yourself. Change yourself, Hettie, get yourself happy. Make yourself ha – happy, Hettie. Then begin to establish a relationship with Don. Establish relationships with your kids. Get yourself happy. You have a happy home whether Don's happy or not."

"Now, we have a tough situation," some of you say. "Well, Hettie, you don't understand my situation."

Don't say that. Don Brooks had pressure in his brain for some years before we ever got to brain surgery. Most of you know Don's had brain surgery six times. I'm talking about a very cranky man. Tim, he can tell you, my children can tell you. We have a daddy who had some problems and we didn't know what was wrong. You could not please him. I mean, you just couldn't. It was just impossible. I don't care what you did, he was just cranky.

Well, you can imagine all that pressure in your head, what that did. His head had even enlarged a whole half-size before they finally discovered what was wrong with him. So, he was cranky. He was hard to live with. It was tough. Seems like the more I tried, the worse Don got.

So when I found out that two of us were miserable, I decided one of us was going to be happy and it was going

to be me. Do you know I set myself to be unhappy, and I've been happy ever since?

I mean, I just can't. I can't help it whether other people are or aren't. I just can't help it whether people in this church are happy or not. I'm going to be happy. I just can't help it whether people are satisfied with Jesus or not, I am. I just can't help it whether people backslide or don't backslide, I'm not going to. I'm just not going to. You know what? I've this purpose in my heart, I'm going to be happy – there's going to be somebody in this world that's happy, and it's going to be me. It's going to be me.

I told Tim if I died, just write on my tombstone, "She was happy." The world is looking for some happy people, don't you think? Don't you think – Tim says all the time, "Mother, I don't see how you can be happy. You've just got this problem, and these people with problems. Somebody coming to you, and you've just got – situation. You just have to talk about how you going to do this, and you all just have to get together and work out people's lives and their situations. Mother, I don't see how you call yourself happy at all."

I said, "Hey, Jesus gave me a peace that passes understanding, son. He gave me a joy that nobody can take away from me and I'm not going to let any man, woman, boy or

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girl, no kid in my house is going to take away my happiness.”

See? You gotta set your jaw. Then when you get happy, and they can't make you unhappy, guess what's going to happen to them.

Do you know how miserable teenagers can make you? Do you know how miserable your kids can make you? I mean, you can be having a perfectly good day, but by the time they're through thrashing – in the floor fits, and by the time they come in and, and have a few spells and everything. I mean, everybody in the whole household hates everybody. Everybody hates everybody.

Come on, church. That's the reason I'm having these seminars. It does not have to be that way. I'll tell you, a home will change if one somebody in it will not give in to those spirits. That's all it takes. I'll guarantee it. If you will not give into it, then in the midst of whatever you've got, there can be some joy. Just don't give in to it.

Honey, when the kids come in, and they've just messed up their clothes, whatever they've done, just give them a good spanking, and then just love them and feed them.

Lemme tell you, the difference between good discipline and nagging. Nagging. Does anybody here know what

the word nagging means? Nobody knows. Well, I'll tell you what it is. It's constantly chirping away at something and doing nothing about it.

“Nag, nag-nag nag-nag-nag-nag! Nag nag-nag-nag-nag! Nag nag-nag!”

Do you know that to nag a child, as long as you nag, there will never be any freedom in your home. That's the reason it is so much better to spank a child than to nag a child. Because once you spank them, the air gets cleared, and you forgive them.

Now listen to me, parents. Once you have disciplined your child, they are free and so are you. Once you have either spanked or however you choose, whatever's good for them. If your kid doesn't do with spanking, it's probably because maybe you can't spank hard enough, or maybe you don't trust yourself emotionally. Maybe the way you spank is with anger. If it is, you don't get spank. If you're mad, you don't get spank. Forget it. Forget it. People that spank when they're mad have missed the whole point of relationship.

I'm telling you, there's nothing like a parent that says, “Honey, I'm go – you're going to get a licking. I'm not going to put up with that. I'ma tell you, you're going to be

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a man of God.” – but you’re in your right mind. But when you’re all to pieces and you’re screaming, and you’re yelling, and you’re doing all that stuff, you’ve just wasted – that’s not discipline, that is you taking out your anger. It will profit nothing. All that screaming, all that nagging.

Now, here’s the challenge that I want to send you with home tonight. If what you’re doing is not working, stop it. Because, if you do it for the next 10 years, guess what? It still won’t work. If you’ve tried it for this four years of their life, or 10 years of their life, or 12 years of their – and it hadn’t worked yet, you might as well forget it. Right?

You do – people tend to do more of the same thing. If they nag, they do more nagging. The older the kid gets, the bigger the nags. The more a person – uh goes on, the more they are – uh uh – yelling at one another. They will – are they accomplishing? Absolutely nothing.

But discipline, given in your right mind, given with love and communication. why I’ll tell you, you do it, it’s all over with. Do you know how many parents pout at their kids for 3 days? Even after spanking. No, once you spank or whatever discipline you use, it is over. It is over. The most terrible thing you can be is some pouting parent that pouts for three days after you’ve given them a spanking.

The kid's just trying to earn your love back, and the kid's – "What do I have to do to pay for it?" The spankings payment. They're free and you're free. Now get on and pop popcorn. Now get on and take them in your arms and go do something good.

But do you know that parents spank, and then they just live in the expectancy of the next spanking. Then they knock them around and spank them again. Then they just live in the next – "I didn't get over being mad at you 'til I'm mad at you again." And, and they just – they just stay mad. Because that parent has unresolved things in their own life. If you're not ever tickled in your house – we were talking about lately. You know?

In fact, I was hearing my child discipline tapes that I made about six years ago. They're good. They're good. I'm teaching the same thing. They're good. But at that time, my family had just been out to make a portrait for – for the camp brochure. I don't know whether Tim even remembers it and Terry. But we went out to that little man, and we cut up and laughed so hard. I mean, we just cut up until – and acted so crazy and laughed so hard.

I said when we got through, I said, "My, what do you think that little man thinks of us?" And it was Tim or Terry



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or one of the kids said, “He probably thinks, ‘I wish I had a family that was as happy as —’”

I got to thinking about how Tim and Russell and Bob Mason, and how all of us would sit around at the kitchen table and get so tickled we’d fall on the floor. I mean, I’ve fallen on the floor lots of – we’d just fall over in our chairs. That was just one of the things – that was your highest expression of laughter, is when you fall over in your chair.

And you know, lately, I – I mean, I’m working, I’m working to get some tickle back in my house. I mean, my schedules are so tight, and what I got to do. I’m working with all these people, with all these problems, and I’m doing all these things, and I’m getting’ all these things going til – the thing that I want to teach you, brother; if you’ve lost your sense of humor, you’ve lost your greatest tool as a parent.

Now, a house that doesn’t have a little tickle, a little laughter in it and some fun and some parents that are involved – kids will respond to fun and laughter better than any other thing you can ever do. We just get so perfect, and we get to marching them like soldiers, and we get to walking up and down the way – and I know I do that. But I didn’t used to. ‘Cause I’m a kid person, and kids have to have fun. But I’ve gotten into the techniques and what all

you've got to get done, to get here, euagh! And so, you know, I read my own notes.

You got to have a good sense of humor. You got to. Kids respond to laughter and joy. But if you're just always saying, "Pick up your clothes! Make up your bed. Be here at a certain time. Get your homework. Do that, don't do that! I told you not to do that!" You know? And the kid's standing there, not doing half of it – and hating every minute of it – no relationship.

So what – what do they do? They go after their friends to try and have relationships. Listen. They see that mother and daddy have no relationships. They're not dumb.

If you're married, if you're not a single parent – now, we'll work on you later if you're a single parent. God's got help for you, too – but if you are married, your number one job is to work on your relationship with your spouse. That's your number one job. What do we think we're doing? What kind of future home is a kid going to have when his only pattern is "Meh, meh-meh, meh-meh meh-meh!" What kind of home? What uh – what's to become? Whe – whe – where's their pattern?

That's what we all – most of us are the victim of what we were reared, how we were reared. Until Jesus came.

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Until the Lord came. See, Jesus is the one who can break the law of generations. He's the one that can start you all over again. He's the one that can give you new beginnings. He's the one that can wash you and give you an opportunity to start all – all over again.

“The father of the fool,” Proverbs 17. “The father of a fool has no joy.” The father of a fool has no joy. Man, are you seeing parents that have no joy in their children because they've fathered a fool. They have no joy. Ah! So many parents crushed today. If you'll just quit blaming someone else and do what you can do. A mother won't do anything; she blames the husband. The husband won't do anything; he blames – it just takes one of you to redo your house. It just takes one of you. It just one of you – I had laughter in my home, even though at that time, Don had so much pressure in his head, he couldn't laugh much. But we purposed to have laughter anyway. We had laughter anyway.

Genesis 18:19. God commanded Abraham to command his household and to cause his children to walk in righteousness and justice. You'll find that in Genesis 18:19. He commanded Abraham to cause his children to walk in righteousness and justice.

Have you read the story of Eli? First Samuel two, verse

12. You know what was the problem? You know what was the problem there? It said that in First Samuel 3:13, “for the iniquity which Eli knew, he did not rebuke.” He knew that his sons were sinning, but he did not rebuke them. You know what happened to Eli, because he would not rebuke his sons. He just let them do their thing. He just let them do their thing. Come on, Come on people! Tonight, God wants us to be able to, to communicate with our children. To have relationships with our children. To see to it that when we say it, we mean it!

I have held a chil – several children, on several occasions, for an hour and a half or two hours, breaking the spirit of rebellion. With them kicking and thrashing. I was at a church – I did one in a church for a seminar. A little kid, his mother just couldn’t do anything with him, and that kid was thrashing everywhere. She couldn’t make him behave, she couldn’t make him mind.

“Tim?”

“I spoke at that church about three weeks ago..”

“Stand up, honey.”

“I spoke at that church about three weeks ago, and I forgot to tell you is that mother came up to me, and she said, ‘Your mother won’t probably remember me.’ I laughed

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because I remembered you saying. She said, ‘What was that, two or three years ago?’ She said, ‘Here, I want you to meet my boy. He’s doing good in school, and hasn’t been the same since that night. I just thought.’”

“Praise the lord.”

It was a very embarrassing thing for the parent, for the church. I held a screaming kid. then I stood him up and made him – and it was an hour and a half to two hours. I just laughed.

I said, “Scream a little louder.”

He started rubbing his eyes, and I slapped his hand.

“No, you can’t rub your eyes.” I slapped his hand. “No, no!” I mean, I meant it, too, and he knew I meant it.

Two hours. You just wouldn’t believe they can hold out that long.

Some of the people said, “Well, Hettie, how much longer are we going to be?”

I said, “However long it takes.”

You cannot start and back down. Do you know, if I had ever walked away from that situation, that kid would have been demonic the rest of his life. His eyes were slits. They were slits. His mother couldn’t – she wanted to come to

the meeting the day before, but he turned the tables over and crawled up under everything, and, and the kindergarten teacher told her later, little nursery school keeper, that she was – she was going to shut her little nursery school down ‘because she didn’t have the courage to tell her that Shawn could not come. But that she could not stand that child. That he was like an animal and she could not have that kindergarten – see, that mother had no idea, that I could stand right there.

I asked the mother, “Honey, can you take this? Will you trust me? Will you trust me?”

And she said, “Yes.”

I stood right there with that child with him screaming. Made him stand up. With him screaming for two hours. He’d just scream, and I said, “You’re doing good, honey.” I said, “You’re doing good.” I just smiled. I said, “Little louder! Come on, you can scream.” – Well, he wasn’t going to scream any louder. If you’ll use that negative – you know, I mean, you’ll use that opposite thing.

The Bible says, don’t provoke your children to wrath. I just had a kid up at camp. Man, that kid came, so rebellious. He wasn’t going to do what I told him.

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I took him aside and I said, “Hey, sweetie, you having a good time?”

“No, I’m not.”

I said, “Oh, well, hallelujah!” I said, “Let’s go call your mom.” Now what – I had no intention of calling his mother, but, you know.

“Let’s go call your mom.”

“What for?”

“Oh, did you think this was a prison? Naah, this isn’t a prison. We don’t want you here – we can have fun. We only have fun people here, and if you’re incapable of being a fun person then we don’t want you here.”

“Huh. Well, I’m no – I can be a fun person.”

I said, “When?”

“Huh. Um. Well, now.”

I said, “Great. Give me a big old hug and let’s get with it.”

I’ll tell you, if you will learn how to get the devil off base. But no, we don’t do that. We get in the same old arguments that have never produced anything.

You know, when this kid comes to you: “Mother, you didn’t wash my clothes.”

“I know it, honey, I’m going on strike, wash them yourself.”

“Huh?”

See, instead of saying, “Well, I just didn’t have time.” And, “Well, Honey, you just expect me to do so-and-so and so-and-so.”

“Well, mother, if you just – you promised me you would have it!”

Just say, “Hey, man, I’m not going to do it anymore. Do it yourself, sweetie.” I mean, you see? You can throw them off base.

Rodney says, “I would never tell Mother I was going to run away from home. She’d pack my bags and have them out on the front porch.”

If one of my kids had said, “I’m going to run away from home,” I’d say, “Hallelujah, that’s wonderful! I’m tired of feeding you, anyway, kid. Get these things out here.” I’d just laugh and put them out there and say, “See ya!”

But we can’t, “Oh darling! You wouldn’t run away from home, would you?” Man, when they get you by the throat. Man, they just get you for all they can get you. If you can be intimidated, they’ll intimidate you. If they can put fear on you, they will put fear on you. If they can shake you up,



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they will. Let me tell you something, there's nothing in the world like a parent who grins their way through life. Whipping that kid, making 'im sit down and sayin, "Don't you love momma? Aren't you glad so glad you got a good momma?"

"Aren't you so happy you got a good daddy? Look at me, I'm a good daddy because I'm not going to raise an idiot who everybody hates to see coming. I'm going to present you as a man of God. You're going to be a dandy, honey."

Word pictures. Keep telling them what they can be. Keep telling them what they're to be.

"Oh, you're just a failure! You've embarrassed me in front of everbody. I hate taking you anyplace. You just always act so awful!" They already know that, tell them something they don't know.

What they don't know is, "God's got a plan for you, honey. God's got a wonderful plan for you, and you're going to be somebody. You're not going to be wimpy, and you're not going to be a cookie like – like some of the kids. You're not going to act like they do. No. You're going to make it, you're going to be wonderful. God's – God's going to use you, your life is wonderful, sweetheart. Moth-

er and Daddy just love you so much. You're going to be somebody. I'm going to see to it that you are. I'm going to help you."

Listen, if I could break the intimidation that your children put over you.

When that mother got through, I took that child by the hand – he wouldn't hold my hand, he wouldn't do anything. That child walked like a little lamb and had dinner – had lunch with all the women, all the church, just waiting. He walked like a little lamb.

I did it with another child. The next day, the parents came for Thanksgiving. They were sure that child would hate me. That child had never run to my arms. He wouldn't – he'd just kick at everybody. He ran in my house and lifted his little arms. I picked him up and took him in my arms. He didn't want to get down, either.

They'll love you if you give them some security. They'll love you if you will pour your heart out for them. They will love you – you can't fool kids. They know when you're taking time with them. They know when you spank them, you love them and you're giving them security. They know when – when, when you're doing the right thing. The Bible says, "Don't provoke your children to wrath." Parents are

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constantly provoking their children to be mean, to be hateful, to be angry. Don't provoke your children to wrath.

Don't provoke them – “Well, Hettie, I don't understand that. When they've gotta make up their bed, they've gotta make up their bed.”

You know what provokes them? Your attitude. Do you know what provokes them? A negative spirit.

Something that's positive – “Honey? Momma wants you to learn to make up your bed, now. You don't want to be a person that's sloven, and careless. Momma wants you to make up your bed. Make up it” –

– “I've told you to make up that bed and if you don't make up that bed, I'm going to —!”

Threatening is the worst thing you can ever do. Mark it out of your vocabulary. Mark “threatening” out of your, of your vocabulary. Don't peck. Don't threaten. Give them the respect that is due them.

Now, I want to end with these things right here. Some things that children – Here – here's another scripture I want you to write down. Proverbs 29:15. “The rod and reproof bring wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother.” Would you write that down? Prov-

erbs 29:15. “The rod and reproof bri – bring wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother.”

How many children do you know in this day and age that are getting their own way? And what’s it doing? Are they happy? Don’t keep doing something that’s not making your kids happy. Don’t keep doing it when they’re not happy.

I cannot wait until parents leave their kids at camp. I can’t wait. You know why? Çause I can make their kids happy. They left me half the time a bunch of spoiled brats that are miserable, that act like turkeys when their parents are there. They’re just awful. So – nuh – you know, not all of them. But some of em. The minute that parent’s gone, I can make their kids happy.

You know why? I’m going to say, “Sit down,” and mean it.

I’m going to say, “Honey, stand – sit up back there. You and I are going to communicate.”

I’m going to say, “Honey, I notice you.”

You know why they love me? ‘Because I notice them. I’m going to hug those kids. I’m going to squeeze them. I’m going to tell them, “You stand up here and behave yourself or you sit down and be quiet. Hey! [Snap of fingers.]”

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You guys back there, you get it together. Now you come on. I'm not going to let you sit there and be ignored. I'm not going to act – let you act like you're nothing. No. No! You're going to be somebody”.

Parent – kids, you can't fool your kids about your time. Now, here's a little list I want to give you. You can't fool your kids about your time. You say you don't have time. But they say you talk for an hour on the phone. They see you polish your fingernails. They see you read the newspaper. They see you watch television. They see you play golf. They see you blow your horn. They see you go fishing.

And then you say, “But I don't have ti” – you're not fooling anybody. You're not fooling anybody.

“Mother works! I don't have time.”

They see that you have time to do the things that you want to do – you always get your nails polished. I mean, your nails obviously are more important than times spent with them. You always manage to uh you know, go shopping and get you a new dress or etcetera. See? We're not fooling them, parents. Don't say you don't have time for your children. They know. They know how much time you have and how you are spending it on someone besides them.

Probably one of the greatest problems that children have is not enough time spent with them by their parents.

“But Hettie, I’m a working mother!” That doesn’t matter. That doesn’t make any difference.

Do you know that when my kids were growing up, we voted to have this church? Tim and Missy and Rod and Don and I had a meeting. We voted to start a church.

And that meant that every Sunday morning, we’re going to have to get up and turn our furniture around. I got up and baked cakes and made coffee so that everybody came to church had a little fellowship time afterwards. My family voted that, that, that we would have that church. They knew what that was going to mean.

But because I am a woman, to this very day, I do not come home and talk to Don about the finances of this church. That’s not something Don has really done. That’s just something Go – he had enough finances for our family, he couldn’t take anymore. He just couldn’t take anymore. So I just hadn’t worried him with that. I just stayed on my face and brought them in. God raised up Steve. Steve came along, began to do the books.

I do not go home and take this church home. I do not go home and say, “Well, Honey, so-and-so did so-and-so.

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Well, I so-and-so and so-and-so.” Now that our children are reared, and now that Don is not as under as much pressure, he – we can share things that used to, we never did.

When I would go to Texas speaking, when I came home, he’d say, “How was it, Honey?”

“Fine.”

Even this church knows that. I don’t go home and talk hours about what I did somewhere.

“Fine.”

“Well, was it good?”

“Yeah, it was good. What do you want for – what do you want to eat? How’d it go here?”

Because being a woman, I am not going to provoke my husband to jealousy for the ministry. And Don has always kept a thumb on me, that just about the time I got too [sailing?] away with the ministry, he reminds me, I am his wife, and that is your first place. That’s the reason that a lot of people could never do – a lot of women could never have a family and do. Because – because they don’t have a husband like Don, who would make me do right.

But my family and my husband have been priorities. I don’t come home and say, “Honey, I just can’t cook to-

night. I – I had a hard time. I prayed all night ‘til 3o’ clock down in Florida.”

I mean, he travels with me now, and when I pray ‘til 3o’ clock, I’m still up the next day, trying to fry him an egg, and get him some orange juice and do whatever, whatever I have to do as a wife. Because I’m not going to keep throwing up to him what I can’t do because of the ministry.

Here’s what I’m saying to you: If you are a working mother, then God – you ask God, and he will make it up to you. You cannot keep throwing up to your children how tired you are because you work – don’t bring that home. Don’t bring that home to your family, how tired you are. Your kids don’t want to hear that. They’ve waited for you all day long.

Daddies, don’t come home and all you’ve got for your kids is how tired you are. Don’t bring that home to your children. Don’t bring that home to your wife. Don’t bring that home to everybody where your whole family is how worn out and tired – you know what you’re saying?

“I just gave all the best of everything I have to the world. You get the leftovers of who I am and what I am.”

No, it will not work. It will not work.

If you are a working mother, and even for your fathers,



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don't spend your whole evening layed back, telling the whole family all night long how worn out you are. Kids don't appreciate it. What do you think a five-year-old – what do you think that means to them that your feet are tired because you – were stood on your feet at your job? They don't understand it, family. If you can't stand on your feet all day and come home and give something to your children, then you need to quit. It's p – that's, that's plain and simple. If you cannot go to work –

– God gave me supernatural ability to work at this church, to work at camp, and to do with my children, and to do with my home and to do with my family. All during the time we were having camp, I was in a job where I was right there with my children. They never missed a meal.

But you just can't – “Well, I just don't feel like cooking. Well, I just don't – I don't feel like fooling with you because Sears and Roebuck got the best of my energies. I don't feel like messing with you because the church got the everything I have. I don't feel like fooling with you tonight. You're not important to me. The job is what important – making money's what im” – it won't work. Everybody hear me? Everybody hear me?

If you're going to have babies, then when you come home, ask God to give you supernatural ability so that your

home is not one big fatigue center. Everybody know what I'm talking about? Everybody know what I'm talking about? Ask God before you walk in that door to gird up your loins, to put a rod of iron down your back bone, to give you supernatural power and ability to go through what you go through with and not keep laying it over on somebody.

I just hate to be telling my family every minute, "I'm sick. I'm tired. I got a headache. I got a backache." I hate to be doing that all the time. I just hate every time somebody sees me to hear some sort of ailment or some sort of predicament I'm in.

We get in ruts and we get in habit patterns, do you know? It happens to all of us. The first thing – we sit there with each other – "I have a headache, I'm tired, my feet hurt, my legs hurt, my back hurts, I've got lumbago, I've had a kidney infection for four days, I'm miserable."

And you've got little old kids just wishing, "Man, I wish Mother's kidneys would get ok."

You can't fool them about your time. You can't fool them about your fears. Don't think you can. You cannot fool them about your fears. If you fear that your house is going to catch on fire someday, your children will grow up being afraid that the house is going to catch on fire. My

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mother grew up having nightmares about the house catching on fire and all of us had to deal with that. She woke up with nightmares because one time the house next door did catch on fire and almost burned her house down.

Your fears. Airplanes. money. Daddy, don't think for one minute when you start worrying about money that it doesn't feed into the life of your kids. Oh, it does. Oh, it does. Women, if you fear your husband's going to leave you, don't think that doesn't feed into your kids. It feeds into your kids. If you're afraid you're going to starve to death or – or you're not going to have enough money, those fears are transferrable. If it's your health, you fear for your health, kids get it. Do you hear me? I'm talking about tension in your home. I'm talking about tension.

You know, I've had kids, little kids, down here at church come running up to me – this long time ago, no more. No more. Especially if I keep having seminars.

Little kid comes running up to me, "Oh, Hettie." I mean, I'm talking about eight years old. "I think we're going to lose our car today."

I said, "Lose it? Did you forget where you parked it?"

"No, the collection agency is coming to get our car." Eight years old. "They're coming to repossess our car."

Eight years old?

“Hettie, we’re going to have to move because we can’t pay the rent.”

Eight years old? Worrying about the rent?

Come on, parents. We’re putting things – and I want to talk to you about single parents using their children, no matter how old they are, as their spouse. Putting all this financial pressure, all this emotional loneliness, all your feelings and all your needs, putting it on that kid, and then wondering why that kid is that Miss Happy. Or not Mr. Free. You can’t do that.

And don’t misunderstand me. It’s great for kids to know. “Honey, you can’t have that, we can’t afford it.” It’s great. Kids need to know you can’t afford it. “No, we can’t afford it.” It’s healthy. It’s good for them to know they can’t everything. It’s good for them to know that you work. It’s good for them to know the value of things. You need to teach them to work. Start teaching them to work.

Now, I can’t teach you everything. [Exasperated sigh.] Don’t pay your kid every time they take out the trash. Don’t pay your kid for everything they do – don’t start it. Don’t start it. An allowance is great.

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On Saturday, “.because Mother loves you, and because I want you to learn to be responsible.”

“Daddy loves you. Daddy wants to give you an allowance. You’re going to be responsible.”

I went to a home one time – well, I’ll tell you. Don’s grandmother used to tear me up. Don and I got married and we went to her house. And, and he fixed the doorknob for her door, and she gave him a quarter.

I was never so insulted in my life. I took that quarter and threw it on the floor – I tried to give it back to her –

“No, sirree! I’m going to pay ‘im.” She’d been paying him all her life, as a little boy.

When I said, “Why, that little boy’s going to stand up here, and he’s g – not only going to fix your door but he’s going to mow your grass – this your grandson! This i’ your grandson!”

You don’t pay people for love! You don’t put a price tag on love. You didn’t charge them for how many shirts you ironed. You didn’t charge that girl for ironing her dress. No, don’t you start putting a price tag on love. Kids will never understand how to be a contributing member of the family. No, they do it just ‘cause they’re there.

Hey. You know, you didn’t charge them a dollar and a

half for their supper. No, don't start that in your family. If you have started, say, "Honey, well I've decided to do – I'm – you're – I'm not going to pay you for taking out the trash. I'm not going to pay you for doing stuff for me."

You see what we've done to our kids? They don't give anything. They grow up not giving. You know, one of the things I found out about one of the boys we kept up at the ranch. I've always had this feeling that somebody would think, you know, we make the kids – anytime we have a boy working for us, you can be for sure Don Brook's going to work that kid. I mean, that kid's going to work.

But you know what? Don Brooks pays them for every minute that they work. I started finding out, wait a minute! The guys we have staying here – we make them work like dogs, and we pay them every – for every moment that they work.

And here I've had these guys living with us, and they haven't given anything. I mean, they never clean out the carport, just because they say, "Hettie, I live here. Hettie, I eat this food, and Hettie, I'm not paying any rent. I'm not paying anything for the food. I'm living here free grass for nothing." And it never even occurs them to give anything.

And God says, "Listen, you're going to change that."

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Why, if you don't teach your children to be givers, you rob them of everything. You teach them to love you enough to give – you give to them by example, and they give back to you. When they give to you, you love it. “Oh, honey, thank you for that flower. Thank you.”

I – I've loved watching my grandbabies learn to be givers. You know? Linley went off on a trip, and she promised me she'd bring me a present, and she didn't bring that present. You know, that worried her? That just worried my little grandbaby because – because she was going to give me a present. I'll tell you, it just excites her – all this time that I've been traveling, you know, it's, “Mim, what did you bring me?”

And Terry and Tim'd been saying, “Linley, you and Melissa do not ask Mim what she brought you. The minute you see here, that's not what you're after. You're not after what she brought you. So, no you can't say that.”

But now, do you know, this last time when she – when I came back, she didn't even ask me, at all. “Mim, I got you a present! I got you a present.” You must teach your children to be givers. You must not pay them for every contribution they make to the house – ah, the household.

Listen. You cannot transfer your fears to your children.

My favorite story is standing in the barn door and watching the roof fly off. Don't make your children afraid because of your fears. Don't transfer your fear of water to them. Don't transfer your fear of flying to them. Don't transfer your fear of starving to death that – that you have to them. Don't transfer – don't – don't put it on them about the car payment. When they get old enough and they can be a contributing member of the family, that's a different ballgame.

All of you hearing what I'm saying? Are you hearing what I'm saying? And then wrapping it up

You – you can't fool kids about your indecisiveness. You can't fool them when you are inconsistent and indecisive. They know just as well, if you start to discipline them and you haven't made up your mind. Hahaha! Don't you think they won't mali – manipulate you right in the middle of it. You make up your mind right before you start. Mothers say, "No, you can't go to the – to the swimming party tonight." Then they start in.

You know what? By the time swimming party comes, you change your mind. They play on your emotions, they manipulate you and you've changed your mind. They know your indecisiveness, and do you know your indecisiveness makes them insecure? Did you know that? When you don't



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know whether to spank or not to spank? When you don't know whether to, to say yes or no?

I – listen, I'll tell them no.

And they'll say, "Well, Mother, what'd you say no for?"

"I don't know" –

– "But you told me." – this, this is when they get this thing." Well, Mother, say 'yes' or 'no.' Don't say, 'I don't know.'"

"Well, if I have to say 'yes' or 'no,' I'll say, 'no.'"

"Oh, what'd you say that for?"

"Cause you told me I had to say one or the other, and since I don't know whether its yes or no, I'll say no and I'll be safe."

Well, see, that wasn't what they meant. They were pushing me to say yes. But if they're going to push me, I'm going to say no. See? No, they – don't let them push you. Don't – don't – don't be indecisive.

Listen. Don't let that child pout. You jerk that child up and you make that child have a relationship and you make that child communicate. Don't – don't – don't tell them to get their feet off the couch 10 times and never see that

they do it. When you tell them to get their feet off the couch, you see that they get the feet – feet off the couch.

Listen, there's nothing wrong with you telling your child you're sorry. There's nothing wrong. When you mess up – “Oh, Honey, I'm sorry!” But be careful. Be careful.

I've seen parents who say, “Oh, Honey!” They spank their kid, “I'm so sorry, ohh!!” Well, they messed up the whole spanking. No, don't mess it up. Don't mess it up.

Now – but in a few minutes, have the popcorn where they can smell it. Do you hear what I'm saying? Come on! And redo it with something that's fun and neat and has relationship. Don't let them think that discipline is rejection. Don't let them think that your discipline of them is rejection. No, your discipline of them is relationship. Better relationship. Better relationship. A door of manipulation is indecision and inconsistency. They'll get you with it every time.

Now, how many times have you seen ki – kids – I've got – I've got a child that I – I've had a camp this summer. Their parents are so inconsistent with dith – discipline. When that parent gets mad, that kid beats – that parent beats that child. But they've let them go 10 or 15 times doing exactly the same thing. Then at that right moment of anger,

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they jump up and whip that child. That's confusing. That is confusing. If you've let it go one time, then you're just going to have to let it go all the time until you make up your mind that never again will you let it go. When you say it, you mean it.

One of the best things I can leave you with tonight: "If you say it, mean it. If you don't mean it, don't say it." If you don't mean it, don't say it. That child is going to look for what can I do to get my way. Your answer is nothing. That's your answer. Because they're going to be looking: "What can I do to get my way?"

Listen. A child is very aware of parental relationships. Do you know that most of the things that we have counseled with kids at camp this summer is concerning relationships with their parents? Between parents? Mother and Daddy aren't getting' along. Mother and Daddy aren't getting' along. Come on, families, we're going to have to fight for relationships. We're going to have to fight for them.

It hurts children – how many of you were ever hurt by parental relationships? OK. It hurt me – I saw my mother cry. My daddy would hurt her and cut her to ribbons. I would just see her weep and cry. She never did fuss back at Daddy, but she cried. But it hurt. I mean, it hurt me really, really, really really bad.

If you will be that one parent that won't enter into fussing, to be the peacemaker. Just you be the peacemaker. When Daddy's cranky, you just be – when Mother's cranky, you just be – it blesses me when Don won't fuss with me. It just blesses me when he says, "Oh, Honey, you're just acting ugly and I'm not even going to let you be ugly." And he just takes – puts his arm around me. He said, "I just love you even though you're trying to be cranky."

I just love that. I just appreciate that so bad – so good! Don't you appreciate it when someone [duton/doesn't?] encourage you – and then, the child knows your temperament and he's going to adjust to it. He's going to adjust to it. Some are quieter and some are noisier. He's going to adjust. Don't – you can't fool him, he knows your spiritual condition. You may say you're Christian, but he knows whether you are or not. He knows whether you are really sold out to the Lord or whether you're not.

Listen, Jesus will give us a love in our home. Jesus will give us a love in our home that will never fail. Redemption is breaking the hold of the wall of generations. God's redemption through Jesus Christ can make you a new person. Whatever you were before you came to the meeting tonight. Did you know that his redeeming redemptive power can break the law of generations in your life

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and you can get a new start tonight? Did you know that? That God will forgive you for everything that you've done wrong? That God will help you to overcome all of the negatives?

That once again, you can go home and begin to have creative life in your home? The Holy Spirit wants to bring some creativity back to the ruts that your home life has gotten in. Back to the relationships with your children that are so ratty.

How many of you know what I'm talking about – about ratty relationships? You're saying and doing the same things. we're going to believe as I pray that God is going to break those ruts.

Now, don't be disappointed when you go home to break them cause you've been to the seminar and your kid hasn't. [Laughter from man in audience.] Do you hear me? You go home and, and you don't talk in front of your kids negative things. You don't argue, and you let your kids see what a home is.

If you want your son to have a good home, then you have one in front of him. If you want your children to have a happy marriage, then you have a happy marriage in front of them. If you want your children to be respectful, then

you respect them and demand respect from them. If you want peace in your household, then you be full of peace. If you want a place where joy rules and reigns, then you leave your business and your tired feet outside the door and you come under the – under your household anointed and ready for – for life, to be a life-giver through Jesus Christ in your household.

Come on. You know what’s wrong? We have quit working at our family life. We have quit working at our marriages. We have begun to take one another for granted. We have begun to take our children for granted.

And the Lord Jesus wants to renew us in the spirit of our mind. The Lord Jesus wants us to begin to think new, and establish something new. Go home and talk to our children in a new way.

Now, tomorrow night I’m going to teach you how to – how to – how to change teenagers. How, with your children, to motivate them. To motivate children to godliness. You need to learn how to motivate your children.

You know what the kids say at camp? “Heavens, you wouldn’t do anything. You wouldn’t tear up anything.” We’ve never had anything thing torn up, we’ve never had a name written on a wall. 22 years. We’ve got big old nets that

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keep our basketballs from going over. Those nets have been hanging there over 18 years. The night we put them up, a man said, “They’ll tear them down the first thing.” They have been hanging there for 18 years.

You know why? When children can see through word pictures.”Honey, wouldn’t that be dumb for you to go and tear that down. That’d be dumb. You’re not dumb. We need those to keep the basketball from going over there. That would be a stupid thing – it would be stupid if you have to get attention by being negative.

“We’re going to give you attention because we love you. You’re not going to have to be negative. You’re not going to have to come here and act like a animal to be loved. You’re going to be respected and loved.”

Come on, parents. Communication. Relationships. Honesty. Truth. You did wrong, you’re going to get a whipping. Momma loves you. Daddy loves you. I’m involved with you. I know you’re there. Come on and sit here with me. What happened to you today?

Somebody. Somebody paying attention. Somebody releasing the spirit of love and life.

We’re not as much in love with our children as we are determined that they’re going to march like soldiers. “And

do what I tell them to do, and then get out of my way.” You know why? Because emotionally, we’ve removed ourselves from our babies whether they’re 14

Now, tonight, God wants you emotionally to get involved again. You know what you’re kids will say? They’ll say, “Welcome home, Dad.”

You may have been there for the past four years or five years, but you haven’t been there. Tonight, your children are saying, “Welcome home, Daddy. Welcome home, Mom. I’ve been wanting you to come home so badly. I’ve been wanting you to love me as much as you love your job. I’ve been wanting you to love me as much as you love your beauty. I’ve been wanting you, Daddy, to love me as much as you love your golf or your TV or your fishing – oh, Daddy! Oh, Daddy, welcome home. Welcome home.

I believe that after tomorrow night, beginning with this very night, that you’ll go be at home. Go be at home. Go make it a dwelling place for the spirit of God. Go reestablish a home where people come, and there’s joy and peace.

And if you’re single, start working on your apartment. Start working wherever you are, that the spirit of love and life in Jesus Christ is wherever you are, wherever you live. Let there be, for you who are single – let there be that



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drawing power so that you begin to acknowledge all of God's little children. Do you know what it means to be a child and have some single person – [Tape cuts off here at (00:30:42).]

Disc 2 – Track 2

Length: (00:31:14)

Now, in order – lemme see how many of you were not here last night? Lemme, lemme – we – raise your hands. OK. A little smattering. Even for those of you who were, I just want to pick up again. I want to order it. I want to structure it and I want to finish about tapes.

There are the motivational series. If you don't have money, charge it, write an IOU, do whatever you need to, but you get what you need to get. There – the child discipline tapes that I could not possibly teach here, that are some, um, nine hours worth on the child discipline series. So get those. If you want to order tapes from this meeting, Jimmy will get them for you. I recommend "The Devil in Our House" for you who have teenagers – will show you how you how you get deceived and how evil spirits are just multiplying themselves and passing themselves back and forth.

So you go to the tape table, and you get what you need. When you get it, then use it. When you get it, sit down with notebook and piece of paper – don't turn it on and then wash dishes and come back and listen. Your best not – that's no way to listen to a tape. I don't even bother to put a tape on if I'm not going to listen to it. I don't fill my head with noise and call that "listening to a tape," and pick up a little here and a little there. So you study to show yourself approved unto God. Fill yourself with everything that you can learn about children and young people.

Our authority for rearing children is the word of God: What does God say? What are God's instructions to us? How does God teach us to teach our children?

So I want you to quickly go through these scriptures with me that you might have confidence. Did you know that God's word will give you confidence? You won't feel so intimidated. You won't feel so bad about this. You won't let the humanist out of you. You won't let someone rip you off, because God's word said it, and if you are a Christian, then you are building – you – of the foundation of your home on God's word.

So, quickly, let's go through scriptures that I am using in this seminar specifically.

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First Samuel. This is Eli. The priest. The spiritual leader. Now I'll tell you, one of – some of the greatest – people who need Child Discipline more than anybody – and I know Andy and Wanda would agree with me, that they've seen plenty of ministries that their own families were desperately in need. Because – and I believe, sometime, that we will be able to minister to ministers about their children. 'Cause you know, sometimes the worst kids in the church are the pastor's kids. You know? They're – they're just the worst.

I'll tell you, we've got a unique situation, it's not easy. [Laughs.] It's not easy. It's – it's just not easy. That your children come every Sunday and their spiritual leader is their mother, their father. They've heard you at home – it's not – we're not talking about something easy. There are lots of ministries that are really in trouble with their families. But we believe God has help for them.

Now, Eli is a spiritual leader. He's a priest. He's a spiritual leader. He's in trouble. He's in trouble because of his children. He's in trouble. I'm not going to tell you the whole story, but I am summing it up, what God had against him, and the way that God was coming against his ministry.

In fact, you know what happened to Eli. I mean, he died.

So let's look at verse 13. First uh Samuel chapter three. You see, it was – Samuel was called to go speak to Eli. It was tough. Samuel didn't want to do it.

Let's look at verse 11. "And the Lord said to Samuel, behold I am about to do a thing in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hear it will tingle. In that day, I will carry out against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house from beginning to end." Concerning his house – not his ministry. Concerning his house. From beginning to end.

"For I have told him that I am about to judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knew. Because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them."

Now, we're not talking about a man who's ignorant about the behavior of his children. How many people will stand up and tell you, "I know my kids are awful. I know they're awful." Eli knew his sons were ungodly. He knew it.

But you know what? Obviously, he was as intimidated as some modern American parents are. Obviously where his children were – he was just as intimidated as some parents are today. He did nothing about it. He did not rebuke them.

"I don't want to mess with that – I'll just let it work it out. I don't want a confrontation with my kids. I don't want

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to deal with that problem. I don't want to mess with that. God, you just take care of it. God, you jus – I'm still [pu-in?] a little. I dunno what I'm doing."

Is it – it's ok out there? OK. OK.

So, Eli did not rebuke his sons. And God found that very unfavorable. So unfavorable that Eli was judged harshly about it. And and the end of Eli was tragic. He was sitting up on thing, fell off, and was t – bad – it was, the end of, his end – the end of his life was tragic. Alright.

So we're talking about here we see that God holds us accountable for things that we know about our children. When we know they are not walking with the Lord. When we know they are sinning, when we know they're doing wrong.

Alright, turn to proverbs, 20 – 15. we'll go in order, that'll make it easier.

Proverbs 15, verse five. "A fool rejects his father's discipline, but he who regards reproof is prudent." A fool rejects his father's pri – uh discipline. We realize in this generation that we reared a bunch of fools. I mean, kids are fools.

Today, a kid at camp, a precious young ninth grade girl came up to me weeping.

“I just got a letter. Oh, Hettie. my best friend’s brother, who had been accepted into med school and was to start in med school was just found, day before yesterday, in his bed, in his room, with a plastic bag over his head and he had committed suicide.”

Accepted into med school. Accepted into med school.

I was talking to one of the counselors, and you do you know what one of my counselors said? “Hettie, I – I never got anywhere close to it, but when I was a sophomore in college, the thoughts of suicide kept haunting me.” And he said, “You know what? I could not handle the pressure of being accepted. I was too – I was too fat. I was ugly. I I wasn’t accepted, and I could not handle the pressure.

“It’s the pressure of acceptability. I just – I ki – there was so much pressure on me for me to perform and to be what everybody thought I oughta be and what I thought I oughta be.”

Well, you know – do you know that that pressure is really not put on anybody? We all feel it. So if we all feel it, who’s doing the putting the pressure on? It’s so satanic. It’s so demonic. It’s so demonic.

I – if I said to Wanda, “Wanda, do you feel a lot of pressure?” She’d say, “Yes.” Well, she thinks it might be

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from me or from the church or from everybody else. But if she talked to every member of her church, she would find out that everybody else in the church is feeling the same thing.

Now, isn't that stupid? Isn't that stupid, that we're all feeling all this pressure from everybody? Everybody's feeling pressure. We think it's from people or churches or parents or here or there. It's demonic. It's demonic. It's demonic.

And because we are fighting the wrong source, we back up – you see, a lot of people are fighting their kids. They're just fighting their kids. Well, Beelzebub cannot cast out Beelzebub. I tell you that in “The Devil in Our House.”

A child's confused. You're on his case – he can't cast himself out. He can't get rid of himself. He can't – he can't – he feels like he can't do anything about it.

I can tell you right now that the biggest prayer area of my life has been from pregnancy til this day, for my children. That's the biggest area of prayer that I know for my children. I stay in continual warfare over the lives of my children. Constantly. I believe Christians are leaving their children unprofe – unprotected.

“What can I do about it? Well they – if they've made up

their mind, they want to live that way, well that's just the way they're going to live. Well, if that's what he wants to do, that's what he wants to do. I'll just wait and see."

Not me. Not me, not me. I'm standing fighting. I'm fighting. I'm fighting. I'm fighting all the time.

I'm fighting Satan – "You're not going to have my children. Satan, you're not going to come against my children. Satan, you're not going to do it."

My children have been attacked like everybody else's children have been attacked. Maybe – maybe more open in some ways because of the ministry than – than – than some people in some areas. And, uh b – but I pray.

And if you are here and you do not know Jesus as your Lord and Savior. You are trying to have a family and a home and a life without Jesus, you're in – you're in tough straights. We need Jesus. We need the power of God to win. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to help us fight through the demonic holes.

What would make a young man, who had gotten accepted into med school, from a fine family, commit suicide? Pressure. The devil is making fools of our kids. Fools of our kids. A fool rejects his father's discipline.

Let's look at Proverbs 22:15. "Foolishness is bound



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up in the heart of a child. the rod of discipline will remove it far from him.”

If there’s any scripture I want you to get, I want you to get that one. Kids come with foolishness bound up in their heart. A – and it takes the rod of correction. It takes your discipline to get that foolishness out of them. Kids who are not disciplined and kids who have no authority in their home are going to walk in that foolishness. Because it takes discipline and authority to get rid of that foolishness that a child is born with. He’s born with it. If somebody argues with you, you give ‘im that scripture.

Proverbs 23:13 and 14. “Do not hold back discipline from your child.” Underline it underline it underlined it underlined it underline it.

“Do not” – Proverbs 23:13 and 14 – “Do not hold back discipline from the child. Although you beat him with the rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with the rod and deliver his soul from torment.” From sheil – from torment.

How many of you have seen tormented kids in this generation?

I just had a girl that came up to me while ago, and she

says, “I – I just can’t believe that this camp is so much better.”

I just got through a story hour. Little while ago.

“I just can’t believe – I just can’t believe that this camp is this much fun. I – I just didn’t even know what I was coming to. I – I – I just didn’t know. Ih – ih – it’s just so wonderful. Hettie, I’m just having the best time I’ve ever had in my whole life.”

You know why? It’s not because of go-carts. It’s not because of horseback riding. It’s because there’s security for them. They know what they’re going to do and they know when they’re going to do it and they know how they’re going to do it and their attitudes have already been fixed for them before they ever do anything.

“You don’t have any choice about it. Just get happy, honey. You just get happy. Just – you just get happy – you’re a turkey if you don’t.” You see?

That – that – that condition whereby authority has caused their soul to be free from vexation. Oh, the vexation of the soul.

Now, if I ask you, if you knew a lot of children that have vexation of their soul. Do you know what I’m talking about? I mean, they’re just tormented. They’re miserable.

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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They're miserable when they get up. Have you ever known that? They just – they wake up miserable. They go to bed miserable. At noon, they're miserable. They're miserable. They have vexation of the soul. It's authority and correction that sets them free and delivers their soul from torment. That's what delivers their soul from torment.

Now, when they do not have that, they grow in habit patterns. We want to talk about some of those teenage habit patterns. They're 15 now, and they've had vexation of the soul since they were 1 year old. They've had vexation of the soul and torment and they've been miserable. An uncorrected and undisciplined child will be miserable.

A child that is disciplined with the wrong kind of authority and discipline will not only be miserable, but they will be emotionally damaged. I have seen more children who are emotionally damaged who've gotten plenty of spankings.

Are you with me? Are you with me tonight? Lots of children have had lots of spankings and they have not served a purpose.

Why? Because the parent was walking in an ungodly attitude and spirit. Until that parent is free before they discipline, don't think your discipline is going to help your

children. Your anger is not going to help your children. Your being upset and just violent with them is not going to do anything. It won't do anything. Heheh.it will not help anything. Your being nervous and moody and just jumping up and reacting. It won't help anything. That's not the discipline we're talking about.

We're talking about Godly discipline, where your emotions are in control. Where you're operating in God's wisdom. Where you are perfectly free from your own emotional insecurities. Where what you are doing with this child, you're cool. You're cool.

I tell you, there's nothing in the world like a cool spanking. It's the truth. Nothing in this world like when a parent jerks a kid up and say, "Honey.lemme tell you something. I'm going to teach you good lesson right here." Wham!

Be careful, parents; don't ever slap your children around. More children have been emotionally damaged by hitting on the head. The head is not the place. There's a good little cushioned bottom, and that's it. That's it. Up and down the legs where there's lot of muscle. On the bottom. That's it. Not the back or the kidney area, and not on the face – we're too sensitive. The face is too sensitive.

Don't slap your children around. Don't hit your kids in

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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the face. Most of the time, people that hit their children in the face are those disciplinarians who are inconsistent. We hit in the face out of anger. Did all of you know that? Most of the time, when we slap we are slapping as an emotional reaction, rather than a determined act that's going to bless your little life, darling, and going to set you free.

Do you see – there's a difference. There's a difference in a disciplined act that is cool, that's all together, your child understands why, you understand why. You're going to get the job done, and the minute it's done and you give them a good one, everybody's going to be free. Now, let's get on with life. See? Now let's get on with life. No pouting, no being mad at you the rest of the day.

Do you know that little children are struggling to try to get their parents to get free from their lack of perfection? Parents hold it over their kids.

“You don't please me. [Scoff.]” And it's from morning 'til night.

“You don't please me. You don't please me. You don't ever please me.”

Hey! Why don't you stop, work that out, and then see to it that all afternoon that kid pleases you. Why go on and on and on with that child not ever pleasing you? Why live

all your life, year after year after year, with that child not pleasing you?

How many of you – don't raise your hand – how many of you have ever experienced the torment of day and day and day from a child? That child tormented you. You were tormented. Now [their/there are?] little tormenting personalities that we gotta talk about. Their little attitudes that come up in parents and parents can't get free from it.

And you know what it produces in your home? It's exactly like you trying to walk your life through with a – with a nail in your shoe. Now, you just not going to live a happy, free, dancing through life kind of lifestyle when you've got a big old nail in your shoe. You're crippled. The longer you walk with that nail in your shoe the more you'll begin to hobble. That's what homes are doing. They are crippled, and they are hobbling.

So. He's not going to die if you spank him. Your discipline of him is going to deliver his soul from vexation. See, we don't want to spank because we think it's going to hurt him. We don't want to discipline because we think it's going to cause confusion and frustration in the home. It does exactly the opposite.

The devil would love to keep this generation right where

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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they are with all these humanistic philosophies and doctrine of, “Don’t throttle their creativity, don’t ever spank a child let’s take all discipline out of the public school system, don’t ever let a teacher spank –

– Why that teacher spanked my kid, and I’m going to go up there and I’m going to tell her, and no teacher is ever going to spank my kid!”

I just talked to parents just a few months ago, and she was so proud of herself.

“No teacher will ever spank my kid!”

I said, “Why, you poor, ignorant thing.” I said, “Honey! You don’t want to be ignorant of the word of God, do ya? Are you a Christian?” I said, “You know, you can’t do that?”

“Well, I think all the discipline is mine at home.”

I said, “Then you keep your home at – at your kids at home and teach them yourself. If you don’t want anybody spanking them, just keep them at home and you teach them yourself.”

I feel so sorry for school teachers who can’t control their classes. Who can’t – minister to their child’s understanding, however they need to minister to his understanding. You know? Even if he’s sitting on his understanding, he needs to be ministered to.

Uh.uh.Proverbs.um.did I miss Proverbs 17:21?

OK, Proverbs 17:21. “He who begets a fool does so to his sorrow. The father of a fool has no joy.” And every time it says, “father” and “son,” put in “mother” and “daughter.” The father or mother of a fool has no joy. “He who begets a fool does so to his sorrow.” And if I’ve ever seen a generation who is walking with pain, lots of it, I’m seeing it. I’m seeing it now.

Proverbs 29:17.

Now, Come on, you got to memorize these scriptures, you got to know these scriptures! You got to know them. They’ll quicken – you know there – the word of God is sharp, it’s powerful, it’s like a two-edged sword! It separates the joint and the marrow. It separates you from your flesh. The spirit – it cuts, and it will get all your old fleshly junk off there and get you into truth.

And here’s truth. Verse – uh – Proverbs 29, verse 17. “Correct your son or daughter and he or she will give you comfort. He will also delight your soul.”

I’m gon’ tell ya’ll something. I enjoyed my three children. I just enjoyed them. That’s all there is to it. I just enjoyed them. Now, it took me a while with Tim. You know. Bertie Johnson can tell you to go over to her house – you



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know, nobody got to do anything 'cause Tim got all the attention. Tim got all the attention. Everybody – we couldn't talk because I – you know – I had to play with Tim. I had to do with Tim.

God gave us children and they are supposed to delight us and bring us comfort. I want you to ask yourself a question tonight. If your children are not delighting your soul and bringing comfort, real comfort, and real love to you, then open yourself up and ask the Holy Spirit to begin to teach you so that you would know how to correct your children that they might be free enough to bring you comfort and to delight your soul. They're supposed to. They're supposed to.

“Well, this wasn't written in our generation.” Ih – if – we just saw Eli, he was having same problem we are. Nothings new. Nothings new. They were having the same problem.

Last scripture, Ephesians 6:1 to 4. “Children obey your parents. Honor your father and your mother, which is the first commandment, with the promise that it may be well with you.” That it may be well with you! It is not well with our children! It is not well with our children.

“Honor your father and your mother that it may be well

with you.” That you can have a happy home, that you can have a good life. That there can be pleasure and joy for you. “Honor your father and your mother that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth.”

And fathers, mothers, do not provoke your children to wrath. Now, how do we provoke our children? Stress, our own. Moodiness. Our own. Intolerance. Our own. Disappointment. Our own. Marital conflicts. Our own. Many, many, many many ways we are inflicting our stuff on our kids and wondering what in this world is wrong with our children.

Discipline will set your child free. It will set your child free. That child in that grocery store and that father and that mother were in hell. Here on this earth. Kicking and screaming and trying to get him to do and trying to make him – and then just – uh uh – knocking ‘im down.

I was, two weeks ago in the grocery store. This woman was pushing her child in the grocery store. She was cussing at that child.

“You shut your mouth!”

I mean, the kid couldn’t’ve been over two years old, three.

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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“Shut your mouth, blankety blankety-blank! [Wham, wham! Wham, wham!]”

All the slapping she did not change one thing.

Parents, if what you are doing is not changing anything, try something else. Don't keep on pressing in the same unfruitful way. The more you press in that which does not work, the more you are forming a rut and a habit pattern that makes it ten times more difficult.

And some of you are here, your kids are 13 and 15 and you think, “Oh, wow, Hettie, if I'd just known this – oh, wow, Hettie!” Doesn't make any difference.

The – the Lord gave us the word. We will see how we can be restored. What the canker worm has eaten up. How we can come again into – into what was taken from us. We must in your household take authority over the devil.

I tell you, it'd do you so good if you went home and said, “Satan, you're not going to have my home.” And you speak it out loud.

Say, “You're not going to have my home. You're not going to continue to make my emotions unsettled. You're not going to continue to put your stress on me. I'm not going to have it. I'm going to tell you something else, Satan, I'm not going to fail as a parent.”

Now, the things we do not declare, they are open market for the devil. If you're not going to declare it and establish it with your mouth, then it's anybody's ballgame. Do you hear me? You will find more power by making a declaration with your mouth. Declaring it out loud.

And you don't have to do that in front of your children – you may or you may not, it doesn't matter. If you have an unsaved spouse and they couldn't handle that. If you've got teenagers that would think you're some sorta religious, be cool. Be wise, wise wise, a serpent.

But I'll tell you, I – I – I tell you, I sweep Brook hill regularly. I sweep it. I sweep it.

I say, "Satan, I'm sweeping out! Nothing that is not of God will not dwell here in the name of Jesus. I bind every ungodly spirit that's come to this ranch to attach itself to this place. You're not going to dwell here. You're not going to get in the minds of my children. You're not going to provoke my children to wrath against me, nor am I going to provoke my children to wrath against you, God, or against me." à [Take a look at this last line – she starts out talking to Satan but ends up talking to God by end.]

Many times I'm in a confrontation with my children, and when I get through, I told myself I wasn't going to do

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that anymore. I wasn't going to tell them how to run their kids anymore, and I just did. I mean, I just did and I jus' got through saying –

– You know what I do? I get in the car and drive up the hill and I say, “Father, you forgive me.” I continue to purpose in my heart that I am not going to provoke my children to wrath. I am not going to build a – a breach between us. I continue to fight and, you know, miraculously, somehow, God gets me through that. The next day, they love me. I mean, they – I can still go down to their house.

Butah – but I'm quick to repent. I'm quick to see when I offend. I'm talking about when I've stepped out of line. Now, there's some times I'm going to tell them how it is. They can pout at me for two weeks if they want to, but I'm going to tell them anyway. Because they – it's good for them. It's true. They have to have it and I'll just suffer the consequences.

I am not going to shun the truth because somebody's not going to like me. Do you hear me? It would change the whole nature of things if we would not be afraid and not be intimidated.

Discipline over the – authority over the devil. Declare that he's not going to you're your children. Begin to say it

with your mouth. You're not going to – you're not going to – you're not going to come and control this house, old Satan. You don't belong here. I'm cleaning house – this house is free from your influence in Jesus' name.

Why, you get some people fighting every day and declaring that – I'll gauran – I'll guarantee it. You do that for a month, two or three or four times a day, out loud, and then you tell me. You come and tell me.

And you won't say, "Oh, Hettie, I did that, and everything got worse. Everything got worse."

No, it only gets worse when you do that two days and then go ten without doing it. That's when it gets worse. When you stir up the fight and then won't finish 'til you win. We stir things up in prayer and we won't go on and persevere until we win. You persevere until you win. You stay in there until you win. You go on until you win. Consistent discipline. Discipline without anger. Listen to me. Discipline without anger.

Now, I don't mean that there are not times when that child needs to see a little fire in your eyes. It does him good. I'm not talking about that. But I'm talking about an uncontrolled anger that is demonic coming out of a parent.

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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You know, the devil provokes – he’s in a child. He provokes the parent. We’ve got the devil in our house. The same spirit, being transferred. The kid’s angry, you’re angry. Husbands and wives do it all the time.

Children can provoke you. They got you. Right like that. It’s amazing when children know they can’t get you. It’s amazing when children know that – “Hey! Honey, I’m doing this because you need it, not because you’ve got power over me.”

See, this kid in this grocery store had power over these parents, and he knew it. This kid that kept on screaming – even though he was getting beat on the head and cussed at and everything . Kid went right on. Didn’t change anything. Because the kid was winning! Even with all the hitting on the head, the kid was still winning!

“I got my momma stirred up and she’s paying attention to me and I’ve got power over her.”

Are you hearing me? It gets kids when they don’t have any power over you. It just gets them. They don’t – “Wow! Wow, wow!” You know, when you stand in authority and you cool and you’re in your right mind, and you’re handling your children, and you mean it and you say it and you

don't budge, they don't know what to do. They don't know what to do.

I dealt with a kid this week – he didn't know what to do. I wasn't budging. I mean, all his cute little – everything.

“But wait a minute, my dad – .”

I said, “So? What do you want me to do? Feel sorry for you? Self-pity? Cry?”

“Why, Hettie, I.”

Come on honey, you gotta have some guts to live. You got problems, I got problems, everybody's got problems. Where are your guts, son? Where's your courage? Come on, it takes courage to live in this generation. Stand up and be a man.

Listen, I been putting on those kids all summer at camp.

I said, “Listen: The wimps, they die. They want to commit suicide. The, the – the wimpy ones that that – th – that – that never got hold of guts and Christ.” I said, “Jesus puts some guts in you, and you'll have guts enough to live. It takes guts to be who you are.” And that's what I tell the kids. It – it takes guts to be who you are.

You may think you're too tall by the magazines. You may be too short. You may be too fat, you may be too ugly,



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you may be something according to the magazines. It takes guts to be who you are.

It takes guts for me to be Hettie Lue Brooks. I'd as sure picked out somebody else if I was going to do it. It takes guts to be who you are. You know what I'm saying? It takes courage. It takes courage for Andy to be the minister he is – not somebody else. Takes guts to have the church God's given you to have. Takes guts to have the church God's given me. It takes courage.

And you know, you get a bunch of courageous parents – you know what we're going to do? We're going to produce a bunch of courageous kids. They're not going to run off from problems. They're not going to run away if parents won't keep running away from problems. Don't run away from problems. Get some guts or some courage and hit life head on. Overcome it. Instead of being overcome by it.

[Audience: "Amen!"]

Ya'll need to get some good aymur –

Spank in the right place.

If you say it, mean it. If you don't mean it, don't say it.  
If you say it, mean it. If you don't mean it, don't say it.

Don't threaten. Don't threaten.

“If you don’t do that I’m going to do so-and-so!”

They know you’re not gon’ do anything. Hush. Just hush. They know you’re not going to do anything – you’re losing your credibility.

They grow up thinking that God’s word doesn’t mean it when he says it. They’ll be like Eli. All of a sudden Eli doesn’t get to live, and he doesn’t get to finish his ministry because when God said it, he meant it.

And when God says for you to do with your kids, he means it. We need to grow up a generation of kids who know that when God says, he means it.

I’ve got a fear of God, and I want my kids to have it. I want my kids to walk in the fear of the Lord.

“Oh, we’ve gotten this thing – just teach them, ‘God is love, God is love, God is love.’”

Listen, I’m going to tell you, God love you all the way to hell. When he gets you to the gates of hell, his love stands outside while you go in.

“Oh, a loving God wouldn’t do that.”

No, a loving god wouldn’t. But the thief who comes to kill, to steal and to destroy will. If you choose to go his way, that’s where you’ll go.

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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Break the law of rebellion. If you have small children, conquer it when they're little. Conquer that spirit of rebellion. Now, it won't take but one or two trips around the coffee table, until at the coffee table I'll conquer rebellion. Or I'll conquer rebellion at the dinner table. Or I'll conquer rebellion at the wherever-it-is when they're little, but at some point when I know that they're old enough to know. They're old enough to know.

Now, I start training when they're not old enough to know.

"No, honey. No, honey. Don't pull the plant over. No. No!"

You can't do that if you don't spend time with your child. They don't just happen. If I want to tell you what's wrong with most homes, they don't spend enough time with their children. They will not grow up without your investment and time, they just won't.

What's wrong with your teenager? You've turned them over to the wolves. You're not involved with them. The home no longer has any influence. You have swallowed that old thing of "They don't want to be with you." Doesn't matter if they want to be with you or not, you want to be

with them. I mean, that's that. You know? That doesn't have anything to do with them.

Listen, parents, lemme tell you something – as long as a child lives under my roof – my son's here. As long as my children live under my roof and eat my food.

That's the reason Roddie was anxious to move out. As long as they live – and he was 20 when he moved out. He wasn't too anxious. As long as they live in my house, they're going to do it my way. They're going to do it our way.

They'll do it Don and I – and listen, I want you to know: I'm saying, "I, I, I." It's Don and me. We were unified in our discipline. I don't think Tim would ever tell you that would – he saw Don and me argue in front of him over an act of discipline. You know. If we did, it was rare. Because we just didn't do it. We're unified in discipline. We both agree. We want disciplined, orderly human beings for children. It is possible. It really is possible. We enjoyed our kids.

We went out to eat and guess what? We didn't have French fries stuck in our ears and up our nose and all over the floor and up in our hair and ketchup on the waitress and the whole ball of wax. I mean, my kids went out to eat and

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act like human beings. It was a miracle. You know what? Didn't take us but one or two times out to eat.

Didn't take me but a few times at church. Some people at church said, "Man!" – They used to cringe when we were at Fountain Lake Methodist Church.

I'd take Tim out and I'd blister him and you could hear it all in the church. The preacher'd be preaching and –

Wham, wham, wham!

“WAAAAHH!!!”

And then I'd shake him and tell him to quit crying. You know?

“You stop that crying!” And the more he cried, the more I whipped him. You know?

[Crying and sniffing noises.] You know?

They said, “But Hettie, you're choking back – you're throttling their need to get that out.”

That's a buncha baloney. That's a buncha baloney. Do you know what they do? Even some Christians now – this thing of, letting them hit something. Give pillows and let them take out their aggression. Send them off to a two-week camp somewhere they can be violent and take out their aggression.

I'm going to tell you something, I saw a young man go to one of those camps. He was violent, took out his aggression – two weeks later he beat his wife up. He's a young minister. Two weeks later he bea –

– Whatever habit pattern, whatever spirit you lose – we're not to lose spirits, we're to control them. We're not to lose our lower nature, we're to control it! Absolutely. Absolutely.

Break that law of rebellion and the younger you do it, the better. If you have teenagers and the law of rebellion is not broken, it's time to sit down and have a good talk.

And if you tell me tonight, "Hettie, I can't, my teenager won't talk." Then I want to see you – you sign up for the next seminar. See, I don't have time in these two – two nights to teach you all the things I know you need to know.

But I'm gon' tell you something: I would hate to think that I had a 15 year-old living in my house, and when I told him, "Honey, come sit down. I want to talk to you." Now I can't make him talk. I mean, I could spank him or hit him or do something and make him mumble out something. You can't make them – but I know how to ask enough questions, and when I ask a question, they better answer me.

Do you see? When I ask you a question, you're going

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to answer me. I might not get voluntary stuff going, but I know how to ask a question.

“Honey, what’s the matter with you? Sweetie, what’s the matter with you?”

I tell you, truth will get you everywhere.

“Sweetie, what’s the matter with our home? Are you tired of it? Man, I’m tired of this hell we’re living in. You tired of it?”

I mean, we don’t realize that children are human beings. Young people are human beings. Those 15-year-olds up there – I sit down and talk to them like they’re human beings.

“Honey, what’s the matter with you?”

I had a little boy that came to camp first of the summer.

And so I started something – I said, “Honey? Get it – cool it – get it together.” And he started acting like an animal – now, I’m talking ‘bout like an animal.

I said, “Hay, sweetie! You sit down.” He’s still [in in. ?]

I walked over and I said, “What’s the matter with you?”

“I’m hyperactive, I can’t be still.”

I said, “What do you want to bet?”

I sent this hyper active child home. He had already been told he's hyper active. He's on pills. "Nobody can make me mind." At story time, he was on the edge of his seat, he did not move the whole time. All he needed to do was to be interested in some things that were interesting.

Somebody tell him – I said, "You're no more hyper active, you know, than I am. You're a human being and you're intelligent." I said, "What you are is you're smart, and you're cute, and you got a lot of energy and I'm going to put it to work at – at camp. Right now, you're sitting down."

I didn't have another minute's worth of tri – trouble with that kid. Not another mom – but he'd been taught, taken to the doctor – when we don't want to spend time with our children. When we don't want to teach them and train them – take them to a doctor and let them give them a pill. It's a shame. It's a crying shame. We've seen kids come to camp with their little eyelids half open. They're so – uh doped. You know, they been so anethitized, they been so put under until it's hard for them to laugh and giggle like kids ought to.

Because a parent doesn't want to put up with an intelligent child. The du – you now, we like the dumb kids. They're fun. You know? They don't do nothing. But the smart ones and the intelligent ones and the ones who have gifts of



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leadership – you’ve got to identify your child’s gifts. You’ve got to make provision for it. Every child you have is different. It demands a whole lot of you to flow. You can’t put them in a basket and treat them all the same, because they’re not.

Don’t be intimidated by your children. Don’t be intimidated. Don’t be afraid of them. They’re not going to die when you spank them, when you correct them, when you disappoint them, when they throw a fit, when they’re miserable and mad at you – they – it’s going to be ok. Ih – ih – it’s – they – don’t be intimidated, don’t be intimidated. As long as they’re in your house, they do it your way. Come on, parents, set some standards.

A parent told me the other day, “Well, my son is taking drugs and he moved his girlfriend in, and they’re living together and they’re not married. So, you know – and I don’t know what to do about it.”

[Laughter from audience.]

“Well, Hettie, I just want to love ‘im.”

And you know – haven’t you heard some victory reports of some parents who did that? And they did have some success? But for everyone that has, I’ve heard of 10,000 jillion that – that their lives – the rest of their lives were

just devastated. I'm not saying that there's not some rare occasion when that could work or – or something. But I'm going to tell you something, there's a standard in my house. It doesn't mean – matter who comes to my house – if my guests come to my household.

People come and say, "Hettie, you mind if I smoke in your house?"

I say, "Sure, darling, I sure do. I sure do," I said, "Go outside and smoke a while, ok?"

[One 'til I don' ?] – I don't like it in my drapes – I don't like to breathe it. OK? I mean – Hey! I've got just as much right to say, "Don't smoke in my house," as they have to smoke in my house. What's been the matter with us, Christians? Hey – we've been so intimidated by the world! That way they can smoke and – I can have a house that – where the drapes aren't full of stuff. Do you see what I'm saying? And it's not a matter of judging anybody, but it is a matter of, when I'm in your household I'm going to do what pleases you. I honor you by doing what pleases you in your household. So, we've given our household over to let it be anything that anybody wants it to be.

Set some standards – kids love it. They just love it. They love it.

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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“Hey, sweetie, don’t get your feet on the couch.” They love it.

Ooh – somethings going on here! Hey, this is special place. When you come to the Brooks’, you’ve come to a special place. Everything’s alive. It’s not just kinda, be animals and do your own thing ‘cause nobody’s paying attention, anyway. Listen, I’m paying attention. If you’re there, I’m paying attention. That’s the reason I can’t work much in my household when I hear that front door open. If you’re there, by osmosis I’m feeling ya. You know? It’s the truth. It’s the truth.

The world says, “Don’t influence your children, let them be free thinkers.”

Listen, don’t swallow it. Somebody’s going to influence them. Somebody’s going to influence them. In college, they “Don’t accept your parent’s religion. You get your own religion. You think for yourself.” The fact that that professor is telling them that is not allowing them to think for themselves. That professor’s trying to influence them right there to that thought.

It’s f – it’s ridiculous to think that we’re going to live in a society where we’re not going to be influenced. The

very person that's telling you, "Don't be influenced by someone else," is trying to influence you.

Huhuhuh. Right? [Male audience member, "Right!"]  
Stupid.

Somebody's going to influence, and you know what? In my house, it's going to be me. It's going to be Don. Somebody's going to influence, it might as well be you.

If you're convinced that what you've got is good – once I got convinced that – booooy, the power of the Holy Spirit – Jesus – that's good! Took depression off of me. Took sickness out of the midst of me. Put a joy in my bones that I walk in. Gave me power to overcome evil. Why – I want everybody to have what I got. I'm a crusader. Why? 'Cause I think if you'll do what I'm doing, if you'll believe what I believe, if you experience what I experience, then you'll be having as much fun as I have. That's what I want for everybody.

Nagging. Don't do it. Don't nag. It keeps your household in bondage. How many of you know what nagging is? Does everybody here understand what nagging is? Don't do it, keeps your house in bondage.

Don't walk in legalism. Don't put the law on them.

"I've told you, your curfew is 11:30!"

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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Come on. Do you know what it means, “Fathers, don’t provoke your children to wrath?” Take some words out of your vocabulary.

At camp, I don’t use, “Here are the rules!” You’ve already provoked them to rebellion right there. I never use the word, “rules.” I never. I never use the word, “rules.” I never say, “Here’s what you have to do at Brook Hill.”

You know what I say? I say, “Kids, you’re not dumb. I’m going to tell you what it takes to have a good time. Takes fun people to have fun time. Mean people have a mean time. Bitter people have a bitter time. Hateful people have a hateful time. Cranky people have a cranky time. Fun people have a fun time. You got a decision what kind of person you’re going to be at camp this week.”

That’s – you got a decision! Come on, kids! We got a decision. In our household.

The – is that my five minutes? I got – ok. I couldn – I couldn’t read from there. OK, and you’re going to count me now.

You make sure in your home that you do not walk in the law. Walk in their understanding. You know what kids do to laws? They break them. It ruins your integrity.

“Honey, Come on, let’s sit down here.” –used to talk to

Tim. “Timmy, what – Honey, what – what’s the deal here? Where you going, what’s going to happen?”

And you know, Tim – if he was going to be out late – Tim can give you his testimony about being a teenager better than I could. If he was going to be out past 11:30, which is what we had discussed and said – “Hey, 11:30’s good enough, you won’t get in any trouble. Momma thinks that’s a good time to come in, Daddy thinks”

If he was going to be out past 11:30, which is what we had discussed and said – “Hey, honey, 11:30’s good enough, you won’t get in any trouble. Momma thinks that’s a good time to come in, Daddy thinks that’s great – you’ll be in at 11:30.” Terry knows – when they were dating, if they were going to be out later’n that, Tim called me.

“Hey, Mom, I’m going to be at Sam Anderson’s house” – that’s when Sammy Anderson, Jr. was a Christian, and he’s going to be again. “Mother? we’re all here and we’re having popcorn, we’re down in his basement – would it be ok if I stayed another hour? How do you feel about that?”

“Sure, Honey, that’s great.”

I mean, we just had a wonderful relationship. But there was no legalism involved. You know? Really, Tim and I had a relationship that you could be jealous over. But you know

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what? When Tim came home, I was a – How many cups of hot chocolate have we have when he got home from a date. When he got back, I was up. He thought it was because I loved him – I was smelling his breath.

I was interested in my child. He and I would just sit and talk for 30 minutes about what kind of fun they had. We just had a good time, all the time he was dating. We had a – we had a good time. There was a flow there, and it can be had by – by parents, but we’ve yelled at each other and screamed at each other and walked in rules and legalization and everything ‘til we provoked everybody, ‘til everybody’s mad at everybody.

Do y’all know what I’m talking about? Some of you do, don’t you? Some of you do. Because that’s what we do. These are the rules – somebody moves into your house – these are the rules, I want to give you the rules right first – we’ll you’ve just blown it right there. You know?

I ask the kids at JCT meeting – our junior counselor training – “Hey, kids. Do you think Brook Hill is a – a highly disciplined place?” And you know what they say?

“No! No, not at all, we don’t think so at all.”

I say, “Can the boys go over to the girls bunkhouses?”

“No.”

“Can you talk when I’m talking?”

“No.”

“Can you get up and go anywhere you want to?”

“No.”

“Can you leave any activity when you want to leave?”

“No.”

“Can you change an activity without – “

“No, no, no no no!”

I said, “You’re probably at the most highly disciplined, restrictive place you’ve ever been in your life.”

They say, “Yeaahh.”

I said, “How come, when I ask you if Brook Hill is a place that’s highly disciplined, you said no?”

They said, “Because everything you have us to do makes sense.”

“Everything you have us to do” – it “makes sense.”

There’s a place with your children that can make sense. There’s a place with your kids where they can understand. There’s a place with your kids where you can sit down and talk to them like human beings. Now, you may have to go through – whatever you have to go through with.



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But I'll tell you, when you purpose in your heart – “Honey, we're gon' talk.” Then, if you're going to talk, stay there all night until you talk. Once you say you're going to talk, then you stay there all night. You'll be surprised after you wear them down an hour or two. You got to push back the habit patterns, the demons, the ways that you've already built up walls. you've got to begin and let those walls crumble.

Adult problems are for adults. Don't lay your financial situation on your kids. Adult problems are for adults. They know whether you're real or not. They know whether you are real or not.

Can't fool them spiritually – Daddy goes to church, they never see him reading the Bible. Daddy goes to church – it's Mother that says, “Honey, pray over the food.” You can't fool your kids. You can't fool them. Sons will emulate. Daughters will – you can't fool them.

Mom and Daddy go to church all the time, but they know that Mother is dragging Daddy. You don't fool them. Nobody fools anybody, especially your kids and young people. They're sensitive. They're very sensitive.

Don't think, if the man in the household has lust, don't think your kids are missing it. They know that spirit may

never be spoken in the home, but they know that spirit of sexual perversion, in whatever partner, is in – they know it. They know it, they know it, they know it.

They know whether you really love them or not. You can say, “Honey, now you know I’m doing this ‘because I love you. Honey, you know I love you. I love you, I love you!”

Hey, forget it. If you think you’re going to convince them, because there are too many ways that real love expresses itself. If you are not expressing yourself in those ways through time, through preferring them – parents, do you know the child knows when you do not prefer them?

“You’re in my way. Your attitude is obnoxious to me. I don’t enjoy being around you! You irritate me!”

How many of you know that there are children whose personalities irritate parents? Do ya’ll know that? Yes, and it’s tough. It’s tough. Don’t think that they do not know that their personality irritates you. Oh, yes. Absolutely. They know it beyond a shadow of a doubt. At home, talk positive talk.

The worst mistake that Don and I make – and I – I want to be sure and tell our faults, too. The worst mistake that

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Don and I ever made with our children. well, one of them. But I – I – I just think it's terrible.

Don used meal time as a time to correct and talk over the problems of the ranch. Everybody got a whipping at the table, verbally. We just got into that 'cause it was the only time we were together. Nobody meant to do that – you know, I didn't mean to do that. But, ugh – when I say Don, me too. You know?

“Now, Tim did you get your homework? Now what about your geography? Now, who's going to do this? Now did you deci – Honey, this morning, I told you to do so and so.” And you know

Meal time should be a time to enjoy. People should go to bed in peace. We used going-to-bed-time as that last time to go in their room and lay them out. We really do. Children – and meal – going to bed at night should be a time of peace so that you and they can rest well. Meal time should not be your time of discipline and correction.

And if I had it to do over again, I would not do that. I think the way that we got by without our children being – having nervous break downs and etcetera...by doing that, is that Don and I are non-violent people. You know, our correction at the dinner table might not be what somebody

else's. But if you want Tim to be a violent person – you can really have a child who upchucks and who does all kinds of things. Our – we didn't walk in that kinda violence and I'm sure that's the way maybe we slid by a little bit more easily.

But certain kinds of personalities – the children are really devastated by correction at meal time and at bedtime.

Use word pictures – make ugly ugly and good good.

“Honey, you're not going to be an animal, a turkey. You're not going to be nasty-minded. You're not going to froth at the mouth – Honey, yeh – this is what you going to be – Oh, sweetie, you just going to be wonderful! You're going to be a man of God.”

I use word pictures all the time, I use them for myself. I use them on myself. Make black black and white white. Make bad bad and good good. So that your children are – have, have no problems with it.

Don't let your children talk back to you. Always move everything into the realm of discussion and let them know that they do not speak until you get it moved in the realm of discussion. Do you know what I'm saying?

There's a difference between, “Well, I'm not going to

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do that and you've told me – !” Man, I tell you, that would've been – I mean, they – I just di not going to have that.

My mother and daddy never let me – Mother called it sassing them. You know? Old timers said, “You're not going to sass me.” I never sassed my mother and daddy or talked back.

There is a difference between a realm of discussion.

Many times my children would say, “But mother, could I – could I s – could I tell you this?”

“Well, ok. If we're going to discuss, yes. If we're gon' discuss – but if we're going to scream at each other and if you're going to sass me back and if you're going to talk hateful – you're not doing that to me. You are not doing that to me. Don't you talk back to me like that.”

And to this, you know, to this day, my children, thank God, are not disrespectful to Don and me. And it's so – it's wonderful. Oh, it's just – it's just wonderful. If you'll just invest in your kids now. Then – you know, it's wonderful. Then you can live together and enjoy each other. Have the families that God wants us to have.

Don't let them talk back. Make them discuss. Love your children.

There's no substitute for, “Honey, I just love ya.”

I just love to fix something for Rodney to eat that he likes. Or I just love – “Tim, I’m going to have Mexican food for you.” I just love to. I just like to go shopping and buy them something every once in a while.

I just love when Tim preaches, to just tell ‘im, “Oh, son! I’s just so proud of you. Momma just – oh, we just love you so good!” I just love to love my children.

And it’s not just my – I – I love to, I love to love Tammy. I love to love her – [day spring. ?] I love to tell Tammy, “Oh, Tammy, I’m so proud of you!”

I I love people. I love to see you do well. I love to love you. You know, God wants us to be opened up to the love of Jesus that causes us to love one another. You got to love your feeling – your children.

Now, deep feelings of guilt – we really don’t feel any love, maybe, for our children. When we come back, I want to pick up with that, and then I want to get right on into sexual perversion.

Now, has it been ok that I’ve reviewed and picked up and hammered, again, on some of those things?

Now, I going to – I want you to get it again, and I want to say it again, but I want to get right into moral standards

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in the home sexual perversions feelings of guilt that are produced. Our own feelings of guilt, etcetera.

My child is going to do what I tell them to do. Now, have I made that clear? Have I made that clear? They will do.

“Well, how? I tell my – my three-year-old. How?”

I’ll sit on them. They’re going to do. They’re going to do what I tell them to do. I’m not going to whip them and then they go do something else. No. But you see, I will not keep whipping if that’s not what’s working. I’m not just going to keep doing something that doesn’t work. I’ll hold them. I will hold them in my arms for three hours if I need to, until they’re exhausted, until I have won. I will hold that child. I’ll talk lovingly and kind to that child.

“You gon’ do what mother says, Honey. You are going to do what Mother says.” I will go into my child and I will say, “Honey, you are going to do what Mother says.”

Now, if you already have a 15-, 16-, 18-year-old that is accustomed to not doing what you said because you did not have a child discipline seminar when they were growing up, God knows that. So what I would do is say, “Honey? You know, I really do realize” –

– Now see, a 15-year-old’s capable of being talked to.

But they're going to be shocked when you come back and don't scream. They're not going to believe you at first that you really changed. See, they're not going to believe you at first. So you're going to have to prove it to them.

Now, if they don't respond, and they don't get on the bandwagon right at first, and they see that three days later you're screaming again, they know it was nothing. They knew you didn't really get the seminar. It didn't really change you. But if you have opened up your life to love and to communicate, and to stop screaming and to change, and no matter what they do, they can't take you back where you were. Don't – they're not done. They're not done. They will come around. They really will. They will come around.

“Honey, Mother's gotta talk to you. I've got to talk to you.”

“Well, I don't want to talk to you.”

Say, “Well, sweetie. That's what I want to talk to you about.”

One of the greatest ways in which you can help your teenager, once you have established bad patterns, is to get them to Jesus. To use God's authority. Yours has not worked. They have no respect for you. The best help that



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God can give you to help with your teenagers is to get them to Jesus. To express the truth of where you're coming from.

Honey, I'll tell you, sometimes it is really good to just cry if you need to. One night – midnight, I think it was Tim. Somebody – one of my kids. I was crying at midnight.

“Honey, you have no idea how difficult it is to be a parent. Mother's doing the very best I can do, to make godly decisions to protect you. I'm so unhappy with the spirit to riddle our home. I'm so unhappy with – with the way you and I have res – are not communicating. I want you to know that when you have your own child, you going to understand where Mother is right now. I'm trying. God knows I'm trying.”

There is nothing like a 15-, 16-, 17-year-old getting into your heart and seeing your own struggle. Be honest with them, parents. Be honest with them.

“Mother has not disciplined you. I have not taught you to respect me. There's such a lack of respect, and Mother's telling you that I know it's my fault. But I want you to know something: God is bringing me to respect for him. Mother's a Christian” – Daddy.

Daddy says to his son, “Son, Dad's a Christian, I'm a

Christian. I'll tell you right now, I'm struggling to be one. In the midst of that, I feel responsible for you, Son. I spill – I feel responsible for you, Daughter. I feel very responsible for you. I want you to know that I am making some changes. I know that that's not going to be easy, but you know what? I believe we can work it out together, God will help us. God will help us."

Then you begin to talk about how the devil has come and ripped you off. You begin to talk about the demon spirits. You begin to talk about how you didn't know. You begin to talk about how – who your real enemy is. Did you know that a 15-year-old can take it when you blame the devil instead of them? Did you know that? They can take it – anybody can. When you blame the devil instead of them.

So when you say, "The devil is trying to torment us. Now, Mother's got to tell you what the Bible says. The word of God says you're going to have to honor your father and your mother that it may be well with you. And until you get respect for me, there's no respect for God. Maybe I haven't been the kind of mother that you felt you could respect."

But I'll tell you, boy you get that finger out there and you look them you the eye. You say, "That's changing."

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Now, when you begin definite and determined and begin to walk in the Holy Ghost authority – you see, there’s an authority that will come over you. One minute you’re crying, and you got their attention, and next minute you’re pointing your finger and your eyes are popping.

“But I’m going to tell you something, the devil’s not going to have this household because I’ve declared war on him. I’m going to tell you, you’re not going to stand rebellious before God because you’re rebellious toward me. Because one day your life is going to be over, and I’m going to stand before God, and I’m going to present you to God. A woman of God. I’m going to present you to the Father – my offering to the Father – I dedicated you when you were a baby, and no demon is going to rob you out of my hands.”

One of the most effective ways that you can work with your teenagers is through our mediator, Christ Jesus.

Now, the way Don and I live happily and successfully together, is because we have a mediator. Why do you think the world is going to a counselor? A mediator. Somebody to get in between ya, and see it from a different vantage point. Every time that I am so upset with Don, I cannot tolerate him, I can’t stand him anymore. I go to my media-

tor, who tells me that it's better to give than to receive. He tells me that if I want to be great, let me be a servant.

He tells me, "He who would be greatest, let him be the servant among all." He tells me that the Lord Jesus Christ didn't come to be ministered to, but to minister.

He said, "Hettie. You're supposed to love your enemies. You supposed to forgive if you want me to forgive you."

By the time God gets through with me, I go back, say, "Honey? I'm sorry. Let's do it again." Or I go do something good. I get it right. Don goes to Jesus. And Jesus makes me do right.

So you see, once you've established deep habit patterns where you can't make your kids do anything, get them to Jesus. Get them to another authority. Get them to the authority of God's word. Cause them to be pitted against God's word.

"Honey, let's not scream at each other anymore. Mother's not going to do that anymore." When they find out that they can't rile you, and that you really have changed, don't be worried about getting their attention – you're going to get their attention. I mean – wh – wh – in the first place, you just can't fight with somebody that doesn't fight

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with you. So you've already stopped a battle right there, see? You cannot have war – one person can't war. You just can't have it. So when you have already said, "I'm not going to get caught up in that anymore. I'm just not going to get caught up in that."

See, Don and I made some decisions. I said, "Don" – before we got married –

"Don, you'll never hit me."

He said, "I'll never hit you."

Now, that's just something I couldn't take. I – I – I couldn't stand a man beating on me. Now – I – I mean, I mean, you know – I – I'm just sorry.

But I – I – I just, "Honey, you know, we're – I'm not going to hit you. You're not going to hit me." And – and, you know, it's an exciting thing to have been married 31 years and my husband's never touched me. To hurt me. Or to hit me, or to express anger of any kind. Nor have I. I've never slapped him. I've never hit him. I've never done any of those things.

And consequently, I don't think my son's hit his wife. You know? Well, Don never needed to hit his wife, so I don't understand that...

You know, there's some things that you get nailed down.

There's some important things that you get nailed down that keep you acting like human beings. Get a nail down. Get a nail down. Get it nailed down that your kid is not going to rile you. You are not going to enter in that. Break the habit pattern. Break that rut. Cut it off. Stop it. You're not going to – you're not going to get any caught up.

How many of you have gotten caught up over and over and over again in the same reaction to our children? OK. We all have, haven't we? Same thing.

Now – Come on, let's be honest. It's pretty stupid, isn't it, to keep on doing it, since it's gotten such little results. Do you like what it's produced? No. No. You can appeal to God.

Now, I'm not talking about you preaching. I'm not talking about you making them hate Jesus. I'm not talking about you throwing the Bible, or God, up to them. I'm not talking about you hitting somebody over the head with the Bible. Your kids – you know, kids can grow up hating Jesus.

“Well, you're going to hell if you don't do what I tell you so – ‘cause the Bible said – and if you don't do it” – you know? I mean – and some people do that. Some people do that. They are so desperate for relationship.

Let's narrow it down so that you can go home knowing

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somehthin. There's no substitute for time with your children. You got to take time with them. I don't care if they're 17 or 18 or whatever. You got to acknowledge their presence, and you've got to express your love. Come on. You got to express it.

“Honey, I'm so glad to see you. Sweetie, how was your day today? Momma loves you! Sweetie, I just think you're wonderful. I'm so glad Momma gave me a son like you.”

I just – all over Rodney, just ahugging that boy an' saying, “Sweetie, I just love you. Momma just loves you, and I just want you to come by to see me.”

Honey, when I start getting neglected, I start letting them know it. You know. “Don't – you can't neglect me, sweetie, you haven't been to see me very much lately and you gotta get up here and see your mom I just love you” – he loves it. He just loves it. He loves it that he's got a mother that's noticed that he hadn't been around. That I'm after him.

I work at relationships. I work at them. They don't just happen. You work at relationship. It takes time. Express your love. Give joy in that relationship. Know every day, that in some way, your child has experienced some measure of joy.

Now, that would be a feat for some of us, wouldn't it, 'cause some of us go a week at a time, and our children never saw any joy in our household. They never saw any joy in our lives, we're under too much pressure to get where we're going.

Let there be some joy, expressed from you to your child. Let there be some pleasure in expressed – in that child.

Do some of you know it's easy to go for a while without exple – expressing pleasure in your children or in your child? Express some pleasure in that child. Then, when difficulties come, when you're not riled – always, always, if you will be honest and express from the inside out.

Do you know, it's so different, when you do things from the inside out?

The kids at camp said, "Hettie, you know, camp is so different than home. Because, when you tell us to sit down, we understand why. When you tell us not to go back to the bunkhouse, we understand why."

We just give our kids a bunch of stuff and we never say why. We say, "Honey? Everybody? What do you think? Good idea if we do so-and-so? Or, or lets go – let's" –

– Now, you don't have to do that with children up to 8



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or 10 years old. You don't have to do that. Hey, you can lay the law on them. The law is the schoolmaster. That's what the Bible said. The law is the schoolmaster. They do good with spankings, they do good with the law. That's what it's for. Here's where parents miss it: They don't know how to transfer now from the law into the spirit where the heart is involved.

See, kids don't resent being taught. They don't resent even being spanked.

They don't resent being said, "Honey, we're going to grocery store right now." They're not going anywhere, anyway. So, sure, let's go to the grocery store.

"OK, Honey, we're going over to see Aunt Mary." OK, let's go thr – see Aunt Mary.

But when they begin to grow into their own thinking process, and we're right there between childhood and adulthood, when you – then you got to slip from the law over into the spirit and begin to treat them in the spirit.

Communication. Understanding. Relationships. Huh? Relationships.

And you develop that relationship so that your child begins to think of you as a human being. You think of them

as a human being and you treat them like that. There's communication. You work it out.

Then you begin to say, always, "Boy, I tell ya, Mother was really praying today. I was really praying today that we would just work it out. I tell you, today I was just praying, Honey, and I could just see us getting it together, and I could just see us having a happy home – oh, it was wonderful today!"

And they're just saying, "Naaahrr! Oh, it's wonderful! Oh, it's so good what's happenin'" – I mean, you just won't have it. You see there's a place where you're just no – you're just not going to have it. I mean, they can't do it to you, they can't put it on ya. They can't put it on ya.

Do you know what it would mean to walk in that kind of strength and power and authority? Why, it'd be the best thing in the world if their children think they can't rile you. They can't control your emotions. They can't kick you up and get you to respond. It blows their mind.

Then they begin to see authority they can respect. They're going to respect God's authority. They're going to respect the authority of the Holy Spirit. It's going to be full of wisdom, it's going to be full of love, it's going to be

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communicating and treating your child like a human being.

It will be free from disgust – how many of you have ever been disgusted with your kids? You’ll be free from disgust. You’ll be free from anxiety. You’ll be free from anger. You’ll be free from that ungodly pressure. Pressure. Pressure.

Now, I want you to go home. I want you to begin by not reacting. Tim, preached the best sermon the other day. A Christian acts, they do not react. We’re the aggressor, we act. Jesus always acted, he didn’t react to the Pharisees. He didn’t defend himself, he didn’t “Gnah gnah, gnah gnah gnah!” with them.

And so when we go home, to no longer react to our children. We see their actions, and what we do is we make a decision, and we make an action, not a reaction. See the difference? Can you see the difference?

[In signature ?] child needs a spanking, and you go over and get him a good one. After that, you pop the popcorn, you enjoy each other, you have time together, it’s free, you’ve forgiven them. Have ya’ll got that that you don’t hold bitterness and resentment once you’ve spanked and disciplined, it’s over? [Snaps fingers three times.] Do all

of you know that? You don't keep pouting and throwing it up to them? That's what a spanking is for. That's the difference in nagging.

This preacher nagged at 17-year-old and never produced one thing. Now, do you know what I do with a 17-year-old? And we will have – this is not enough. Ya'll know, don't you? 'Cause you've got questions you want to ask me. So soon and very soon we hope we will do it again. Unless you ask me those questions, what would you do? What would you do?

What would I do if I had a 17-year-old and I told him to come? Well, if I couldn't physically do something with him. You know, if he's this big and I'm this big, and I start to take him by the arm, and I s'pose – see my children, my 17-year-old, if I took him by the arm, and I said, you get up, he would get up. Do you know that there's such a law of respect that my child, if he wanted to hit me, could not? Do ya'll know that kind of law? There is such a law of the spirit that's in – that comes from early childhood. Boy, if you want to do yourself a favor, you put it in your kids when they're little. If you want to really do yourself a favor, you spend time with your children when they're little.

You know, I'm encouraging mothers, if you don't have to work, don't do it. But if you do work, for goodness'

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sake, when you get home give yourself to your kids. You just let the house – you just cannot spend all night washing toilets and doing the washing and keep on – you – you don't have them in the day and you don't have them at the night, either. It just won't work. See, it just won't work. There's got to be a place where your kids have you all to themselves and you're growing together and you're loving each other and you're full of each other. You can't bring that stress home. You can't make your kids suffer because you have work too much.

If I could not take that 17-year-old by the arm and make him do – if he – if he came back was going to sock me – which I could not imagine, I could not imagine one of my children ever hitting me. You know? Even my grown children, I believe they would stand there right now, and I could spank them or slap them or do anything and they would not hit me back. Now that's miraculous, see? But that's because of the respect uh – of a little child.

“No, don't you ever touch me. Don't you ever” – why I wouldn't let – I wouldn't stand and let any one of my kids hit me. Why, I'd take that leg, by the time I got through hitting he'd not kick anything else.

We had a terrible time with Rodney biting! And Missy would come and say, “Mother, Rodney bit me!” You know,

she was six and he was one or something. Five or something.

But anyway, “Mother, Rod.!” and I’d say, “Honey, don’t do that!”

I, [slapping noise] you know, “No! Don’t!” [Slapping noise.]

“Naaahh!”

And so, first thing, and I know, he’d bite her again. So she came in and she was really crying and I mean, he had big teeth marks. I jerked his hand up, and I bit till the blood came. You know? I mean, the pink came. He’s never bitten anybody since, ever.

I mean, you know, we say we can’t do anything. Well, he’s not dumb. Do you know how many times a child is going to put his hand on a hot stove, that same hot stove? How many times will he do it?

[Audience replies, “One time.”]

One time! Come on, parents! Come on, parents, don’t tell me! That child, if he got burned on that hot stove – he’s not stupid. What he knows is, you’re confused. What he knows is, you’re undecisive.

Do you know when you’re spanking them, they know

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when you're angry? And if you are, they're still in charge. You may be beating a fender out of them, but if you're mad, angry, uptight, riled, they're still winning. Don't forget that. They know.

If this 17-year-old would not get up, then I would pack his things up, and I would put him out on the street, and I would say, "I see you, baby. You go live like you want to. In my house, this is the way you do it."

Children without standards in a household are lost. That's what's wrong with this 17-year-old boy, anyway. That's why he's on drugs and doing his thing, because there're no, there're no definites, there were no definites growing up. It was "maybe," and "I don't want you to do that, I wish you wouldn't. Please don't do that."

Hey, man, if you're alert to it – I'm looking in their eyes, I'm smelling their breath, I'm seeing if their nose is running. I'm not stupid. I'm not overlooking my kids.

Parents who say, "Well, my kid was on drugs three years and I didn't know it." Now, I'm not saying that cannot happen with a parent that's involved. But I'll tell ya, it'd been plenty hard for them to do it with me.

Now I'm not saying – my kids may come up and say,

“Uh-huhuhMother. I was on drugs for three years and you didn’t know it.” You know. So. That could happen to me.

But I’ll tell you right now. I was right in their face. Every day. Every day. I’m checking their eyes out, I’m checking them out. I’m feeling them an’ I’m touching them. I’m looking at them. I can tell you right now, Rodney Brooks can walk in the door and I can tell you if he has fever. I can go down to Tim’s and I can tell you whether Tim’s got fever or not. I can look at Linley and tell you by the streaks on her face, I know whether she’s got fever or not. I just know, I’ve seen too many kids. I know, you know – I just know my kids. I know.

And if you’re ali – alert and alive to what’s happening to your kids. Who are they with, where have they been, what they been doing, who are their friends? What’s happened? Where are they? Man, my kids don’t go to somebody’s house, my kids don’t have any friends I don’t know. My kids don’t go spend the night with somebody. I’m getting to all that. My kids don’t do anything with anybody that I don’t know who they are, where they are and how long they’re going to be there and what they going to do.

I’ll tell ya, I made a pretty good rule at my house. Tim, how many times did you spend the night away from home with one of your friend’s? Not ever. How many people



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spent the night with you? Bunches. Bunches. Handpicked. Handpicked. Me sleeping with the door open. Me sleeping half awake.

Hey, you gotta take the responsibility for them, they don't just happen. If you will give yourself to them while they are in your house, they'll be a blessing to you the rest of your life. My children are blessings. Great blessings.

So, you know, don't close your eyes. Don't send them off somewhere and I want to get to – I want to get to that.

Take charge, be a parent, not a buddy. I've seen parents that, man, their kids are just doing everything, but the woman, she just wants to be young. So she wants her sons or her daughters to think she's Miss Cool and she's really in competition. She's really in competition with her daughters or with her kids, you know, 'cause she's Miss Young and Miss Cool. The daddy, maybe he doesn't want to grow up so he wants to be ol' buddy-buddy, come-have-a-beer-with-me-Son. You know, "Come on, let's be buddy-buddy."

Listen, kids have got lots of buddies, they only have one daddy and they only have one mother. Let somebody else be their buddy, you be their mother, you be their daddy. Let somebody else be their best friend. Let somebody else be Miss Young, Miss Cool, Miss Whatever.

Kids don't like that – do you know they – uh weh – you'd think with you trying to talk about how youthful you are and how young you want to look, and how you always want your kids to think how young you are and everything – what you want your kids to do is to think, “That's my momma. That's my daddy. That's not my big sister, that's not somebody” –

– You know, we think it's so neat for somebody to say, “Oh, your mother looks just like your sister!” That's so flattering to us – that don't do anything for your daughter. Forget it. That doesn't help her any for you to look like her sister. She needs a mother. She's only got one. She needs a mother, she needs a daddy.

Take charge. Kids love it. They feel secure. They may fight you.

I tell you, I – I love the day that Tim came home when he was a freshman in college. I'm saying Tim 'cause he's here, my other kids were here I'd be using them a lot more, too. But, Tim came home from college. No, he called me.

“Mom, I just want to tell ya. I felt so sorry for myself every summer while all the kids were out water-skiing and I was at Brook Hill Ranch” –

– He was out in a horse lot from the time he was prob-

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ably 10 years old, teaching horseback riding, until he graduated from college. Every summer, all summer, all his life. From the time he was in the third grade.

“Mother, I just want you to know I felt so sorry for myself, and I just thought it was awful, and I just want to thank ya. I want to thank you and daddy. I’m up here with a bunch of turkeys that – man, it’s pitiful. They don’t know how to do anything, Mother. Their lives are wasted, they’re not even going anywhere, they don’t have – they’re all smoking pot and doing dope and laying around in bed. They don’t have any goals, any ambition. They’re not –

Thank you, Mother. Thank you and Daddy. I want to thank you and Daddy. For making a man out of me. Thank ya.”

Now see, you may have to go a period of time where you don’t get any thanks from your kids. They don’t think you’re so wonderful. I went through – I’ve gone through several periods of time with each of my three children where they didn’t think Don and I were so wonderful. They didn’t think we’d done wisely, and they didn’t like what we did, and they didn’t agree with us.

“Too bad. When you get your own kids, do them the way you want to. I’m doing the best I can. This the way it is. This your mother and daddy calling.”

That's the way it is. If you're not wrong, be definitely wrong. If you're not right, be definitely wrong. Be something. Don't be milky toast, middle of the road, half-baked, wishy-washy, yes-you-can-go-no-you-can't-go, "Yeah, it's ok – No, we dunno if it's ok or not. Well, it's ok, you can do it now" – make up your mind and do it. If you're wrong, you're wrong.

Now, I've made mistakes probably, but I didn't let my kid go. Well, it turned out they missed the Jesus party and they all got saved and, maybe it would've been a good thing for my kid to go.

But you know what? I said, "No." I meant, "No," and I might've made a mistake. But I said it, and I stuck with it, and I did it. That's better than me wishy- and washy-ing, and in and out, "Yes you can, no you can't," and "Yes you can," you know, and "No you can't."

The biggest mistake you can make is being indecisive and changing your mind in midstream and then always talking you out of your decisions. Make up your mind before you ever say it.

If my kids ever pressed me to a decision, the answer was always, "No!" If they press you to a decision, the an-

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swer's "No!" You'll be safe. "No," is the answer. My kids learned quick not to press me for a decision.

"Mother, have you made up your mind yet?"

"Not yet!"

"Uhh.when do you think you'll know?"

"I'll tell you when I know. Don't ask me again. Don't ask me again. If you do, the answer's no. So you know it. You know, don't ask me again."

And they know not to ask me again, 'because if I said the answer's, "No" – if you ask me again, they're out. I mean, there's no playing around about it. If you say it, parents, mean it, do it. Or keep your mouth shut. Don't. Say it. If you're not going to do it.

Have you got that? Your standards need to be set and they need to be clear-cut and it will set your kids free. Set your standards. Let them be clear-cut. In this house, there's no drugs. In this house, you don't do this. In this household, there's not this. That's the way the standards are, and they're clear-cut, and that's the way they are.

And you know what? When your kids grow up with those standards all their life, do you know what that will mean to them? Security. Security. Security.

Why, my kids – I used to hammer at my mother, and my kids’d hammer at me. I used to want Mother – I’d just hammer at her to change her standards.

“Mother, there’s nothing wrong if you, you know, we danced at, uh” – I grew up dancing, you know, at – at school parties and you danced at – at something – “Wha – Mother, couldn’t we just go dancing over here?”

“No.”

Now Mother had a line drawn, and that’s wrong. I just hammered, and hammered, and hammered her. That was wrong.

Well, you know what? Now, I don’t dance, I don’t need to dance. Kids – the kids I know don’t dance, they don’t need to dance, they’re having a great time without having to do any of that stuff. I mean, the dancings so nasty and vulgar now, you know, that – that who would even put your kids in that position whatsoever?

But I tried to get Mother change her standards, and she wouldn’t. You know what? I’m glad.

We had an old Sunday School teacher, and she cried every Sunday. She cried every Sunday. We’d say, “I wish you’d get us a new Sunday School teacher, that ol’ lady, that ol’ lady in there, she just cried at everything.” We nev-

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er were rude. But that's what we thought. But we'd go and say, "Well, Ms. Black's been there a long time, you know, and she."

You know the Sunday School teacher I remember? Ms. Black. You know the one that made the biggest impression on my life? It was the one that knew Jesus. She's the only Sunday School teacher I had that knew Jesus. She cried every Sunday and talked about Jesus, how wonderful Jesus was and all she wanted to do was serve 'im and live for 'im. Made such an input and such an impression in my life.

We got Sunday School teachers don't even know Jesus. They're not doing anything for our kids – they don't know Jesus. They don't have personal relationship with Jesus. All we're doing is crayoling and coloring pictures and cutting out and hanging on the cieling and doing all that kinda stuff.

The kids were singing a song today, something about, "Bananas, I'm bananas for the Lord.." That stuff's cute, darling.

But I'm going to tell ya. That won't get those kids anywhere. That's fun. Christians ought to have fun, that's great.

But I told the kids, "Hey, if you don't know any more than that, you never get anywhere." And they go no more

than that. Brook Hill gives them more than that, see? But some people, we don't go all the way with our kids.

Man, I'm going to tell you something: When you set your standards, you live it before your kids. You be spiritual no matter what they think. You sing praises to God, you let your kids see you praying, you let your kids read – see you reading your Bible.

I knew where my Mother was every night of my life. My mother got saved just when I came along. So I was the kid that got all the spiritual input. The others wouldn't listen, they were kinda older, and, you know, and they had already done their own thing. But she got saved just when I came along. So she read me the Bible and she told me Bible stories and she poured herself – I knew where my mother was every night before she went to bed. She was in by the hot water heater, in the bathroom, praying. I knew where she was every night of my whole life. That's where Mother was.

When I was a teenager, somehow or another, in church, some youth director, some somebody influenced me and I started kneeling down and praying. And you know, the only time that I quit kneeling beside my bed, was when I started praying all day, every day, all day long. You see? When my prayer life was not just at night before I went to bed.



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See, now, I pray all the time, all – I wake up praying, I go to bed praying, I pray in the middle of the night when I wake up. I pray all the time. My life is a life of prayer. If you see me driving by the street, you just know what I'm doing. 'Cause that's what I'm doing. I mean, anytime I'm not talking somebody, I'm praying. Any time I'm not – whatever I'm doing, I'm praying. I – I live a life of prayer.

But. I saw my momma do that. I saw my momma, she made an impression on me. I saw my mother reading the Bible. She made an impression on me. You are making an impression on your kids whether you think so or not.

Now, Mother was just was frustrated with me unbelievably. She said I almost drove her wild. See? So you may have those kids that almost drive you wild – Mother wouldn't bend, Mother wouldn't change, Mother wouldn't cut her standards, Mother wouldn't loosen up on me. Mother wouldn't let me go, no matter how I hammered at her. No matter how I hammered, no matter how –

“Mother, don't be old timey, Mother everybody else is going to do it. Come on, Mother, Come on, Mother” –

“Nope.”

That's the way it was. I grew up with that. Though I walked off and did my own thing, I came right back to it.

You've got to pray. Pray over your children. Ask God to release God's power over your kids. You-Must-Set-Your-Moral-Standards-In-Your-Home. Don't leave your kids vague about your moral standards. Don't leave them vague. You tell it like it is. You tell it like it is, what you believe in morally. Don't avoid the moral issues. Don't avoid the sex issues.

When you set those standards, you know where your children go. Do you know how many parents don't even know where their kids are? They don't know whether they're down at this neighbor's or that neighbor's.

I'm gon' tell you something: Until my kids went to college, I knew where they ah – were. Every day. Until Rodney Brooks moved down to his own house, when he was 18 or 19 or 20 whenever he got out of school, I knew where that kid was every moment of his life. I knew where all my children were, you know – or at least where they said they were going to go.

Now, I'm not saying they didn't pike and do – I – I – act like they're perfect. But as far as I was concerned, I was not ignorant of where they were supposed to be.

I watched what they said. Now, I grew up, and we didn't say, "hop" – "heck," and "gosh" and "darn," and all those

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things. They're very common words today, and many people say those, but my kids laugh at me because I've still got that mentality. You know – "Oh, don't say 'heck,' oh don't say 'gosh.' Oh, don't say that!"

It was a standard in my home. I was never allowed to say, "heck." I was never allowed to say, "gosh." I never said, "darn" in my life. Never. I never was allowed to say any of those – those were standards. You never say, "shut up."

I won't let the kids at camp say, "shut up." It was a disrespectful way to speak to anybody.

My mother never told me to shut up in my life. Never. Mother never said, "Aw – Shut up!" Sh – I mean. She always treated me like I was a human being.

"Honey, that's enough. Honey, I don't want to hear any more of that. Don't you speak anymore."

But there was something for Mother that "shut up" was to make me something less than a relationship and a communicator on an intelligent level. So because of that, I respected that.

You would be so surprised if you would set standards. This is especially for those of you with – with young children, 'cause a lot of us, we've already "shut up" at them for

15 years. We've already done that, so it's kinda, hard in midstream.

You know what? Did you know that without even preaching to your children that you're not going to do that, you could just quit doing it? And did you know over a period of time they'll pick that up?

Do you that we begin to talk like the people we're around? Did you know that? If you move to Canada, you just stay up there a while and you'd be talking like the Canadians. They move down here to the south and we begin to talk like – we begin to pick up their phrases. I listen to the kids in our church and they all kinda use the same phraseology.

When you get hold of some phraseology that you think is demoralizing, you think it does not speak what you want spoken in your household – you know, Don has, you know – Don does not get me in front of the kids and wring me out. Now, there've been times when Don and I spoken to each other or Don has cut me down or Don has made some sort of something that hadn't been good. It hadn't been good, it's not good for parents to do that in front of each other. I've done him that way and it's not good.

But by and large, we have chosen not to scream at each

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other. Especially in front of our children. We don't scream at each other, period.

We've had some good discussions. And they do get sometimes have warmth, you know? Called heated. We've had some of those heated discussions. But even not very little.

You know why? Don and I set some standards.

People that don't set standards are wishy-washy, anything comes a-ga – along, terminologies are nothing. You would be surprised how language patterns in your home could change the peace of your household and the presence of the Spirit, just by what you say out of your mouth and terminologies that – that you use. You need to have standards that you set as a family.

Now, some of you may say, “gosh” and “heck,” but you're not going to say, “hell” and you're not going to say – use the Lord's name in vain and you're not going to say some of these other things. But you have standards. A home that doesn't is confusing to – to children.

What they say – you govern how they dress, you govern how they dress. Lemme tell you what I s – told kids at camp. Everybody's wearing, you know, the little bitty bath-

ing suits and the – they’re cut up here to the waist – the sides are practically to the waist, uh.

You know, Don came in, talking about them one day. He said, “Honey, wow.” You know?

I said, “I know it, sweetie, but,” I said, “We’re – we’re working on that. I mean, there’s just nothing much to bathing suits anymore.”

Well, it’s not bad because everybody’s doing it. [Hypothetical argument for the bathing suits? In quotes?] Do you know what I’m saying? The Christian girls are wearing them the same as the non-Christian girls. If you went to a swimming pool, you would never be able to pick out who’s Christian. You would never.

Enough is enough. Too far is too far.

I told the kids at camp, “I’ve done everything I can do not to be a prude. I’ve done everything I could to let ya’ll grow up and be healthy, normal and – and, etcetera.”

But I said, “I’ve always had a great admiration for people. I don’t care if you wore dresses down to here and up to here. If you could do that as under the Lord without it being legalistic. If it would be a wonderful blessing to glorify God, Hallelujah!”

But I’ve tried to be open with the kids.

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But I'm gon' tell you now, enough is enough and they pushed me too far.

I said, "Girls. Lemme tell you something. All our guy counselors – we've talked about it at the staff meeting.

"I said, 'Guys, would you 'preciate it if the girl counselors and all the kids – all the girls came to cah – would you appreciate it if their bathing suits were not r – as revealing as they are?'"

"'Man,' they said, 'It'd would be very helpful!'"

[Laughter from audience.]

Now, these are Christian young men who are saying, "We appreciate not having to deal with that."

Hey! I'm a woman, and I have to deal with that bathing suit that whoever's wearing. Why wouldn't a man have to?

So you know what we talked about at camp? I said, "Girls, I know you came here" – and see, they're not ha – three – half of them aren't Christians. Or – or, maybe less than that now. But anyway, we got a lot that aren't Christians. They come from these wealthy homes and they come from all kinds of backgrounds and, you know, that's the way the world does it.

I said, "Girls. Let's put a t-shirt on. Wear a t-shirt on –"

over your bathing suit.” I says, “Put that little t-shirt on.” I said, “You’ll see some counselors – some of our counselors just put a t-shirt on just so they can feel good.” You know?

And it’s the cutest thing – all summer, we’ve had kids down there, swimming with their little t-shirts on. And it’s been good. Do you know they’ve loved it? Nobody resented that.

But I didn’t stand up and say, “We made a rule! We think you’re vulgar and nasty! I can’t believe that you would buy a bathing suit like that but since you did.” “.you put a t-shirt on!”

You know, everything is a matter of how you do something. How you do something.

Do you know by the time I talked to those girls and told them that the guys appreciate them not – and loved it and appreciate it and went away from there saying, “I had the most fun I’ve ever had in my whole life.”

They didn’t say, “Man, Brook Hill is so strict. They – everybody else is [wearing/rain/great ?] but Brook Hill – they’re fanatical. They’ve gotten way off and they’re being fana – they didn’t say any of that. They saw it. They knew it was the truth.



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I said, “Kids, enough’s enough.” I said, “I know that you got your bathing suit ‘cause that’s what everybody’s doing, and I know that you did that because that’s the style, I know that. But you know what? old Brook Hill is called to be a pace setter.”

I said, “We’re the ones that sc – we’re a voice in the wilderness.” I said, “We cry out, ‘Repent! The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”

[“Amen,” from audience.]

I said, “That’s enough. That’s enough” – I’m talking about that rock music, I’m talking about it. You know? We’re dealing with truth. How they dress is your business. I don’t care what everybody else is dressing. You got standards in your home. As long as they live with you they live by your standards.

Where they date, and who they date, that is your business. That certainly is your business. Who they date, when they date, where they go on a date. Absolutely, that’s your business. That’s what you’re there for. That is your business. You are there to protect your child.

Don’t let a 13-year-old come home and say they’re going – no 13-year-old has any business going out on a date. Do you know that, from 13 to 15, to 16, that kids are

putty – a girl are putty and a guy is hand? I don't care what you've taught her about sex. They're vulnerable to older kids.

We've had everything at camp this summer. Minister call me. His little daughter, think I told you that, she went to a bunking party. At two o'clock in the morning, the guys slipped in the window. They all had sex. She's 12 years old. She went to a bunking party. Everybody had sex. The guys slipped back out the bunking party, out the window.

She lived with that guilt, she lived with that – almost killed her. Until she finally told a parent. told one of the kids, just so it would get back to the parent.

Now, this is what we've had. This is – I mean, this is just one of – of hundreds of things. This is from a preacher's daughter. We're not talking about cruddy people. It's happening to the best of families, do ya'll hear me? She didn't have any business going to that bunking party in the first place.

Parents, don't you know who your kids are running around – can't you feel it? Can't you feel –

– My kids [used to ?] say, “Mother, I want to go so-and-so.”

“No, you can't go.”

*by Hettie Lue Brooks*

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“Why?”

“I – I dunno why.”

I give my kids a reason every time I can. I say, “Honey, I don’t want you to go, I don’t think those people are the right – I don’t think that’s the right crowd for you. No, you’re not going there. I don’t” – you know?

I just would feel – I wouldn’t let my kids go when there’d be a little brother. I wouldn’t let my kid go to a house where they had a big brother. My daughter, into a house where a big brother was there.

Come on, parents, you’ve gotta wake up. You gotta pay attention. There’s porno on satellite TV anytime you want to see it. There videos that kids can get hold of anytime – their little minds are filled with sex. Their little minds are filled with sex. Used to, our problems were with 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds and 18 – now it’s 9-year-olds. Now it’s 9-year-olds, now it’s 5-year-olds being obsessed. I want to get on with this.

You know who they date, you know where they go, you know who’s in their house. The best thing for you to do is have people come to your home. That’s the best thing you can do. There, you have fun for them. There you have fun.

Pop that popcorn and – and, and have some games for them, and let them just have a wonderful time.

Now, if it's kids that you know their family, you know the brothers, you know the sisters, you know the whole household and the Spirit of God has shown you that's a good place, Hallelujah!

Did you know the Spirit of God puts checks in us and we just override those checks? We just go on and override those checks and we don't do what we need to.

Per – permissiveness and vague standards confuse children. They will do everything – they will call you old-fashioned and they'll say everything, but I'ma tell you: A permissive parent that does not protect your children is opening them up to a whole bunch of hell. Guilt unbelievable. That child that has to walk in that guilt of sexual perversion.

Kids come to church, and often, they have a hard time when the parents are not involved. We see kids come here, and we've seen them get saved. We've seen them live for Jesus, and they go back to a permissive home that doesn't have any standards.

I'll tell you, we've got a little old boy that's been in this church and I'm just pulling for him, I saw him fall down on

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the floor and give his life to Jesus. I've saw him weep and cry at my house, and I've seen that kid live in torment trying to be a Christian. His parents aren't in church, his mother d – works and doesn't even know where he is, he runs all over country with the wrong crowd doing what he wants to. You talk about a child that's in pain just because there's no consistent standards for him.

Teach your children modesty. I see little girls sitting around with their legs up. Come on, mother. Teach your children pull her dress down.

Teach your – teach your children to be modest. Teach the children in your home, teach your little brothers, they don't go in the bathroom when little sister's in there.

There comes a time, you know, when your children are little and they've taught us that it's great for daddies to bathe with their little girls, etcetera. Now, Come on, they're not little girls anymore. There comes that time – it's not good. It's not good.

You are depriving them of what they have to look forward to when they get married. You are depriving your children of that which is to be saved and to be special for them. There needs to be modesty in the home.

I've been in a household where the mother and daddy

run around naked all the time, so the kids – and they’re all teenagers, and they’re all, you know, big, and they’ve missed something. They really have missed something.

I think you can be prudes. I’ve had camp counselors that come, and the girls, you know, would sit around without their bras on. I say, “Girls, you may not have been taught this, but modesty is important to you.”

It’s important. Modesty is important. If we’re going to keep sex special, then we’ve gotta keep the sex organs private. They have to be, if it’s going to be special. If it’s going to have that quality that it – that it needs to be.

Spare your children from guilt by protecting them. Probably everyone in here has experienced guilt from sexual promiscuity. You heard a dirty joke. You looked at sexual magazines. You had a sexual affair that was not God – you’ve experienced in some way sex or some form that was not God. You know the guilt it put on ya? You know the heaviness that weighed on ya?

Many times, a parent needs to deal with their own sex sin, and get it blood-washed and get it free if that household is ever going to really be free. If you really want to have standards, you can’t have the daddy over here hanky-pankying. Can’t have the mother hanky-pankying and roll-

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ing her eyes at somebody else. If you want your children to really grow up and have a happy, healthy respect for sex, mother and daddies, we've got to get that worked out. We gotta get it worked out.

Kids do experiment sexually. They do. I heard James Dobson and he said he didn't know how you ever kept a little boy from masturbation. He said, "I'm sorry, but I think it has to happen, and I don't know what you can do about it."

Now, I – I'm not sure that I agree with that at all. I'm not going to say anything has to happen, but I don't believe its God. I'm not going to say that. I'm not – I'm not going to say that. But I'm going to say, that as children have sexual experimentation, that a parent should be right on top of every situation so that that child – do you know what happens to a young boy who enters into masturbation and can't get free of it?

I've seen married men – I've counseled married men, and that's their big problem, their wife is nothing to their fantasies. She's just nothing to their fantasy. They've lived so long in fantasy land that the wife can't – she wonders what's wrong. What's wrong, what's wrong? Because she can't live up to the fantasy land that this man has locked in.

Because there was not enough healthy activity from the family.

Now, listen. The mother comes home late. A child is left. I went to see a – a mother one day, and there was a little boy out back behind the house. When I walked back around the house, I said, “Where’s your mother?”

“I don’t know.”

I said, “When’s she going to be home?”

“I dunno.”

“What are you’re doing here?”

“Nothing.”

“Is no one here with you?”

“No.”

That child was there – minute I looked at him, I knew exactly what was wrong with that child. Sexually, he’s had too much time alone. You cannot go home and leave little children or teenagers or anybody there by themselves.

Don and I – one of us has always been home when our children were home. Don’s on the ranch, or I’m on – not a half a dozen times, maybe half a dozen times in our whole life have our children ever been at home without us. I don’t ever remember Missy being there without me. With Rod-



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ney, as the children were grown up, Ro – Don was on the ranch when Rodney came home from school, Don was there. There may have been a half a dozen times when he got to be 16 or 17.

You know, we think – “Ah!” – I hear people say, “My kid’s 12, they’re able to stay at home at night by themselves.” Who you letting them watch on television? What are they open to for those long hours, alone? Come on, don’t think because they’re 12, 13 or 14 they can handle lots of hours alone. They can’t.

Are ya’ll hearing me tonight? They can’t. They can’t handle long hou – not in this generation. Not in this generation. Kids used to be able to go out and ride a horse, or go here, do here, go do vil – they were busy. They were busy. They had things to do. But kids now, sitting in the middle of town, all they’ve got’s TV or their buddies or some – something.

We’re being attacked sexually – do you all know that, are you alive to it? I tried to talk to an older man yesterday – day before yesterday – and he said, “Why, I just don’t believe all of this. I think people are just getting too up-tight about rock music. I just don’t think there’s that much to it.” He’s so ignorant of what’s happening. He’s so ignorant.

I've been reading the lyrics from Don Hutchinson's Assembly of God minister. He's giving all these lyrics from the rock music. I can't believe it. I couldn't believe it. I mean, it overwhelmed me. It overwhelmed me.

Children left to their own thinking when there's nothing creative in the home are going to be left to do their own thing. Their thought life can turn to the new sexual arousement that's coming.

Now, I think all of you know that this seminar is too short. Do all of you know that? It's too smart – short.

Our own moodiness is so often the reasons for our children's problems. You all hearing me? You're in a bad mood, you're not in a mood to mess with them. You don't feel like it. Etcetera, etcetera, etcetera. That moodiness causes you to ignore your child and an ignored child when they get to be 11, 12, 13, and now, even past that, you can be sure sexual experimentation is breathing right down their neck.

Children need to come to Jesus. If you'll get your children to Jesus, you will have a wonderful time with your children. You will have a wonderful mediator to talk to your children about. You will have a basis for communication if you get your children to Jesus. If you will give yourself to

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Jesus, and you as a family will come to Jesus, through thick and through thin, through success and through failure, ups and downs, you can make it. You can make it. You can make it. You can make it.

Now listen. Incest is raging. I'd like to tell you about what happened in Hot Springs. This – this – recently. In kindergarten. In kindergarten. a five-year-old, in kindergarten, our public school system, zipped down a little boy's pants, during rest time, and with her little mouth. I cried. I cried. She had to have known what she was doing, that had to have happened before. She had to have something in her home that would cause that to happen.

It's nothing, for kids in school to do the big boobs and do the Dolly Parton, something. It's nothing.

At Hot Springs High School graduation, the final word at the end of graduation was "Aw.s-h-i-t." That was the final gradu – shout from the graduation class.

I mean, we – you know, we got to wake up. We got to wake up. Here's what I dealt with in this last year.

A mother calling me. "Hettie. I discovered that my husband had used my little girl from the time she was five until, she's 11. I just found that out. Hettie. I just found out. I – I started finding porno magazines under our mat-

tress and up in the closet – my husband has been into porno. Then, Hettie, I found out” –

This is a business man in this town, that if people knew who it was, it would shock the socks off of people in this town, this is the wife –

“.then I discovered that something strange was going on between my husband and our 11-year-old son.”

The devil wants to reduce our world to animalistic behavior.

Dave Reeve was at PTL recently. Three weeks, four weeks ago when we were there. He stood up, and he was telling this example, of some friends of his were in a motel. Evidently, the heads of the bed – there was just a wall between them, they could hear the bumping on the other side, and they said, “Oh, some honey mooners, or you know, whatever. So they tried and sat in a little while. They heard a voice, “No more, Daddy, please! Please! Please, Daddy, please! No more, Daddy, please!”

[Exhales.]

I cried. I cried.

I cried when I heard a woman physician in Memphis, talk about the pornography, and how a family exploited their children, the children had sex with each other and they

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photographed them. How they brought in animals and photographed them.

Who's going to change it? You and me.

Who's going to bring some protection to our children – you and me. 'Cause we know where our kids are.

Now listen to me, I'm not sending you home with fear. You cannot live your life with fear. You cannot spend all your life in fear that something bad's going to happen to your child. No, but you can pay attention. [“Amen's” from audience.]

Come on, you can pay attention. Family went – a little girl went to spend the afternoon with a family. The children went down to the barn to play. Parent, busy, up there. The little brother, taken the little girl off to the side. You know?

You pay attention. Get your head in the ball game, protect your children from guilt. When tragedy strikes, and it does strike, but you're right there to bring the blood of Jesus, the forgiveness from sin cleansing, healing power of God to resurrect and reconstruct that life and to set it back on course. You hear me? You hear me. Jesus can wash it away. You can begin again. Your children can begin again. They can have a new beginning.

Parents. You got to wake up.

Single parent, God will give you supernatural ability to be two people you have to be. They have to have a momma and daddy, because you have no reinforcement – fatigue comes over you and there’s no one to pick up for you. You could be tempted to use your child as your best friend and a sounding board for you.

Security comes when parents make decisions. Single parents tend to involve their child too much in decision making, for that child has a way of becoming our friend, and we lose sight of the fact that we are parent.

If, single parent, you ever marry again or consider it, do not marry anyone you do not trust to discipline your child. Don’t ever do it. Your children – if you marry someone, must become your children. You trust him with your life, you have to trust him with your child. If you trust her with your life, you have to trust her with your child. Or don’t marry. Or don’t marry. Don’t do it.

Don’t flaunt your affection for someone you’re dating. You have no idea how hard it is for children to have a dating parent. You see, it’s abnormal. It’s not natural. It hurts.

“My mother’s always out on a date.”

It’s tough. Keep your dates quiet, don’t talk about them.

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Don't get excited about it. Don't – quietly move about to do what God would have you to do and do it all as under the Lord.

Do you know what I'm talking about?

You're not their best friend. You're not their sister. They're dating and trying to find their boyfriend and here their mother is out dating a boy – are ya'll with me? Are you with me, what that does to a child to lose their parent and their parent becomes on an equal with them? You've got a 15-year-old and you're both dating? It's tough. It's really tough. It's really tough.

Don't you ever lose your identity as a parent. Ever. You keep every other thing that you would ever do quiet, beside the point. Your children are the object of your affection, no dating friend.

Dating brings lots of fear to children because they're insecure often without one parent or another, anyway. So when they're going to have to have the one parent they do have, and lose that affection, or share that affection with someone else, it's tough.

So, single parent, you gotta be wise. You gotta do it carefully. You gotta keep your identity as a parent and leave all these other things that God may bring to you very qui-

etly, very subdued, and never flaunt it in front of a child. Don't talk about your dating.

If for any reason you feel it's God's will to be married, make sure that child is totally secure in that relationship. Don't ever marry somebody that's – you can't – can't be a father or a mother to your child. Don't do it. Your first responsibility is to your child, not to yourself. You've already had a baby, it's too late for you to be doing your thing. It's the reason I tell you – it's too late to get a divorce, you're already married – you already got a baby. That's God's will, and that's God's plan.

But when, for some reason or another, our spouse commits adultery, for when some reason or another we find ourselves in a single parent relationship, then, then you see, we have to walk softly and in the wisdom of God.

If you were ever to marry again, it should be that the whole family is marrying that person, or you don't get married. Do you understand that? Do you understand that?

Be strong, ask God, single parent, for a double portion. Seek out married people to be friends with. do you notice how singles always stay with singles? That's wrong. That's wrong.

You need to take your children into married people's



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houses so they can see moms and dads who are making it. You need to be in the body of Christ where they can husbands and wives and people that are making it. You need to keep, always before you, that objective.

“Honey, you’re going to be a woman of God and you’re going to have this husband.” You always need to be planting these pictures about what – what a relationship is and how wonderful marriage is, and how God is – is just going to bring a strong family for you. You need to be talking about it all the time.

Are you aware of the fact that most child beaters were beaten as children? Are you aware of the fact that any unforgiveness on your part towards your parent will be the thing you walk in? Are you – are – are – do you understand that? Do you understand that you have got to release and forgive in order for you not to emulate your parents?

What happens? You grow up, and your mother’s been married six times, your mother was married six times or eight times or ten times. Do you know what’s going to be warring against you when you get married? That very thing. It’s going to be warring against you. Boy, don’t think you won’t have opportunity to mess up, ‘cause you will. ‘Cause law of generations is right there breathing down your neck. Only the blood of Jesus can break it.

Now, listen, I've talked to you about communication.

I've talked to you about not passing spirits back and forth.

I talked to you about acting instead of reacting.

I've talked to you about coming off the screams.

I've talked to you about getting out of ruts.

I've talked to you about not nagging.

"I told you to come out of there, I told you to quit that, I told you to pick up your clothes, I told you do" – don't do that anymore. That's nagging. Don't do that anymore. Don't say anything that you are not going to see results from what you say. If it's, "make up your bed," just say that one thing, and stand there every morning until they make up their bed.

Take the responsibility to follow through with whatever you have said has to be done.

I was with a parent, they brought a child to camp some years ago. The parent came in, said, "Hettie, would you go out and see if you can get my child out of the car? I can't get 'im out." Now, this is a third-grader, fourth-grader maybe. So I go out. He's rolled all the windows up in the car, he's on the floor in the back seat. I knock on a window.

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“Honey, let me talk to you!”

Sticks his fingers in his ears, falls in a lump on the floor.

“Sweetie!”

I mean, what could I do?

I went back in and I said, “Sir?”

“Oh, I’m so sorry, he won’t stay, he had a bad experience at a camp last year and now I can’t even talk to him about it.” They drove off.

You know what I done? Does anybody here know what I done?

[Various audience members answer, “.broke the window..”]

I broke every window in the car out. [Laughter from audience members.] I’da taken a rock, and I’da smashed that window, and I’da broken that window out, and I’da crawled in there, and I’da gotten that kid by the nap of the neck, and I’da gotten him out of there, and I’d shaken him, and never again would he lock the doors and roll the windows up in a car. Never.

I’da spanked him, I’da rattled his cage.

I said, “I’ma tell you something, son. You’re not going

to act like this. You're not going to act like this, you're a – you're not going to act crazy. You're not going to be stupid. You're not going to be rebellious. God's going to make a man out of you, and Momma's going to help him. You're going to stand up here right now" –

I'da spanked the fire out of him, I'da shaken him good, and I'da said, "You march yourself in there." And if he'da kicked and screamed, I'da shaken him, I'da – I'da – I'da won.

I'm going to win. Or else I'm not going to enter the battle with my kids. Don't enter the battle if you're not going to win. Have y'all got that? Better not to enter the battle and lose than to enter the battle. You know, if you're going to battle, you gotta win. You got – that's security.

(00:26: 30) Do you know what? Every time that I put that kind of discipline on any child, they end up loving me. They love me. They love me. Children love me for making them be somebody. They're at peace and they're secure.

You know what? These kids'll go away from home Saturday, feeling good about it – themselves. I made a success out of them.

You're a failure when you're hateful. You're a ha – failure when you – when you're so spoiled, so bratty, you don't

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get – you have to have your own way. You're miserable. You're miserable when you're negative and won't cooperate. You're miserable; everybody else is miserable. I'm not going to let them be miserable. They're going to cooperate. They know it. It sets them free.