

The Gospel and Family

Ephesians 6:1-4

Overview of Ephesians

Spiritual wealth

God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ

Identity and power in Christ

Hope in Christ

Spiritual gifts and blessings

Spiritual walk

Morality

Wisdom

Relationships

Ephesians 6: 1-4

Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. Honor your father and mother; which is the first commandment with a promise; so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on earth. Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Power of a father (*patria potestas*)

Absolute power over children

could work them; in chains

sell into slavery

give up to death by stoning

As long as father was alive

Often considered an inconvenience

Authoritarian

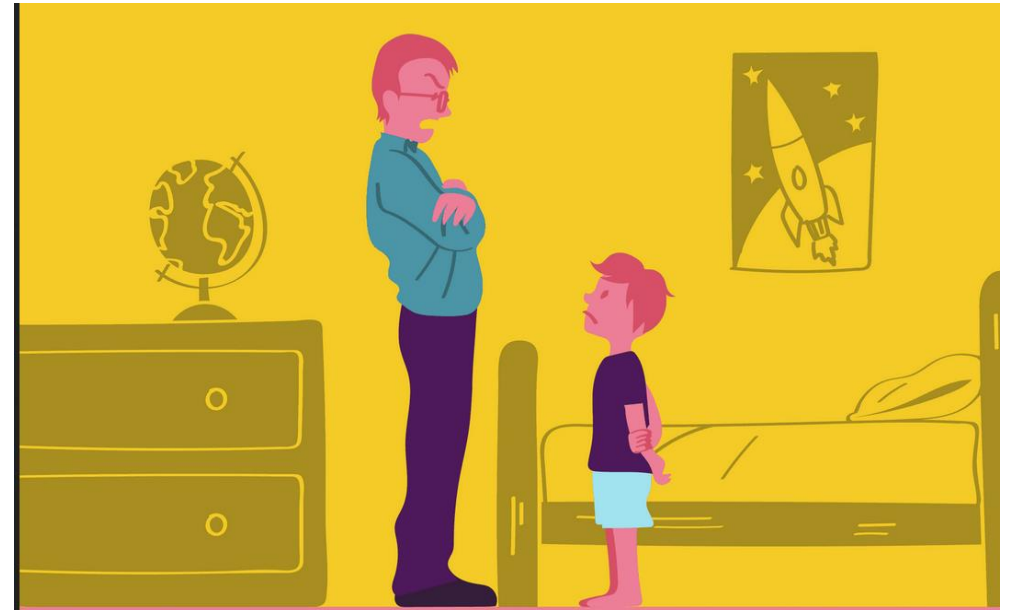
Controlling relationship

High demands, Low responsiveness

Clear rules, overly strict, forceful
punishment, rigid

Limited warmth

Low empathy



“Because I said so!”

Negligent (uninvolved)

Rejecting relationship

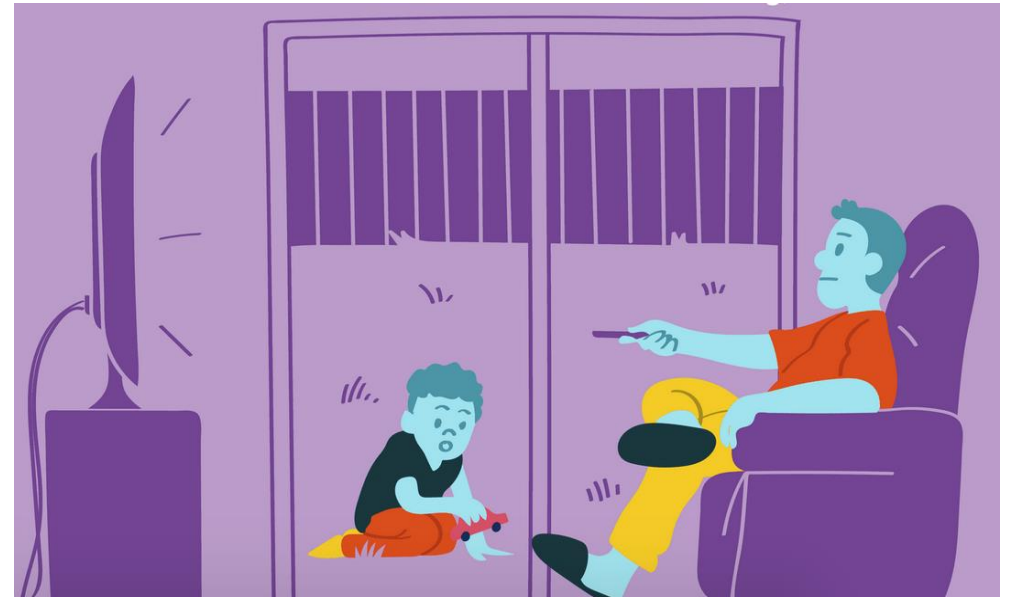
Low expectations, low responsiveness

Few rules, passive

Absent, absorbed

Competing priorities

Low warmth



“I don’t care”

Permissive

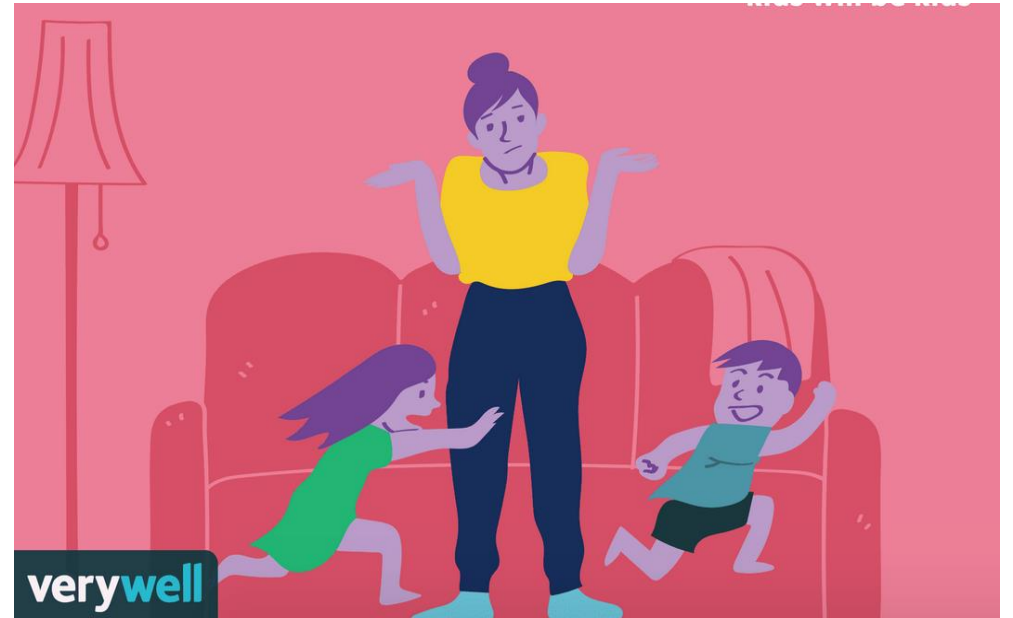
Indulgent relationship

Low expectations, high responsiveness

Few rules, little control
inconsistent boundaries

Very nurturing

Give in



“Whatever you want”
“Kids will be kids”

God expects young children to obey parents

obey:

submit to the authority of (someone) or comply with (a law).

"I always obey my father"

do what someone says, take/accept orders from, carry out/follow the orders of, be dutiful to, heed

Prov 6: 20-23

...in the Lord

Believing or unbelieving

God ordained parents to parent

Matt 7:11

As far as commands in line with the word of God

Abuse, stealing, lying

...this is right

Children learn to respect authority

Enable obedience to God

Reflects our hope in Christ

God expects older children to honor parents

honor :

regard with great respect.

"they honored their parents in all they did"

hold in great respect, hold in high esteem, have a high regard for, esteem, respect, admire, defer to, look up to, think highly of

...that it may go well

Enjoy long life on earth

Promise – Num 23:19

God addresses how to bring up children

Responsibility rests with father.

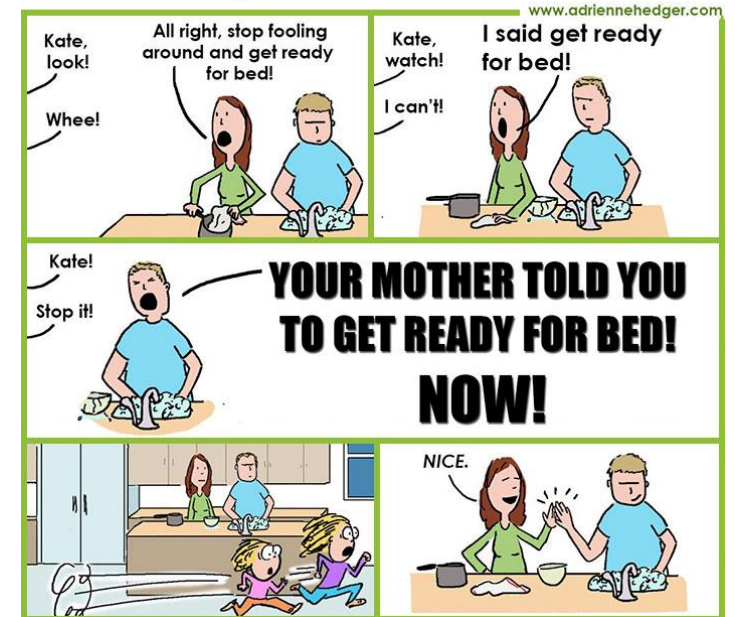
Must be done in love

exasperate:

irritate and frustrate (someone) intensely
by injustice, harshness, hastiness of temper,
undue severity

infuriate, incense, anger, annoy, irritate, enrage

The Magic of "Dad Voice"



...in the training and instruction of the Lord

train:

teach (a person or animal) a particular skill or type of behaviour through sustained practice and instruction.

instruct, teach, coach, tutor, drill, demonstrate, make something clear to

instruct:

tell or order someone to do something, especially in a formal or official way.

order, command, direct, tell...

...in the training and instruction of the Lord

Priority of Scripture not to raise children successful to the world

Children who know God, growing into likeness of Jesus

Talk about your faith, then demonstrate it, read the bible, pray, go to church

talk about how they would like to serve others when they are grown up, life skills, and coach them

...in the training and instruction of the Lord

Discuss standards of behaviour and consequences

Explain the reason why

Follow through when they are not met

Prov 22:15

Prov 23:13

Authoritative

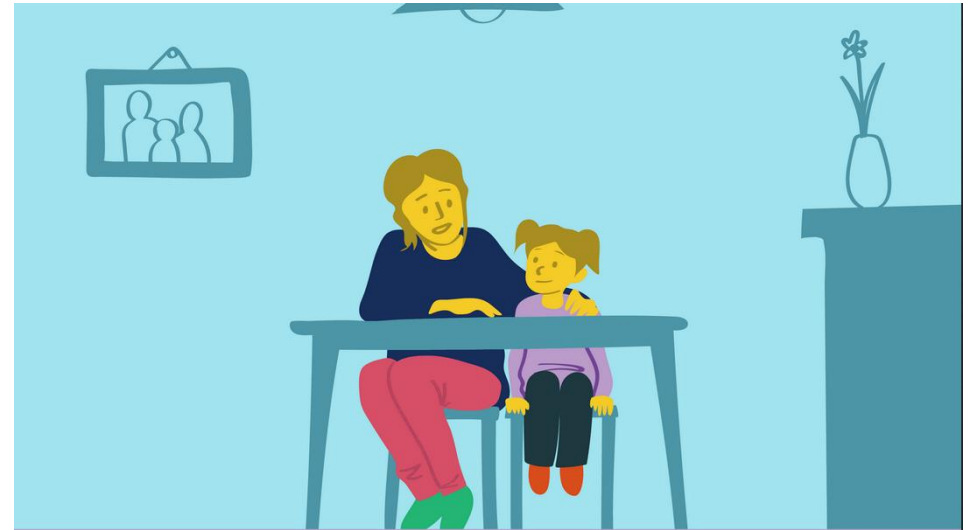
Reciprocal relationship

High expectations, high responsiveness

Clear standards, assertive, disciplines,
open communication,

Consistently responsive

Affectionate



“Lets discuss this”

Impact on children

High self esteem

Independent

Socially competent

Academic success

Negligent

Rude, unpredictable, anxious, clingy

Permissive

Insecure, demanding, aimless, self-involved

Authoritarian

Fearful, aggressive, moody, low self-esteem



 Kudzai Koko Chirenga 13 comments



Tsitsi Grace Penduka is with Chris Monera.



16 Jun 2013 at 08:38 · 

Only now that I am a parent do I appreciate how difficult a job it is! Thank you dad for all the sacrifices you haven chosen to make and always being there for me over the years, Happy Father's Day:))!!

 Rebecca Tendai Penduka Chirenga and 8 others



Summary

1. God has a plan for our families
2. Following God's plan brings blessings
3. We have power, hope and wisdom in Christ