

Sunday, October 23, 2011

YOUR FAMILY IS YOUR FORTUNE – Part 4

**I am responsible TO my kids, but I'm NOT responsible FOR my kids.
I'm responsible TO my kids; I'm NOT responsible for their choices!**

"Youth today love luxury. They have bad manners, contempt for authority, no respect for older people and talk nonsense when they should be working."

--A quote from Socrates, 500 years before the life of Christ!!!

A good memory of when you were a child, plus a good understanding of where today's culture is, makes you a good parent or grandparent.

I Chronicles—"All these men understood the temper of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take."

If you're not talking about sex with your kids, you are the only one at the table without a voice!

Kids are changing all the time, and we have to change with them.

When our kids disengage, we can't! They need us more than ever during that time.

Parents are THE MOST INFLUENTIAL persons in their kid's lives!

Proverbs 22—"Teach your children to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain on it."

#1—Kids need AFFIRMATION.

If we as parents are constantly on our kids case, constantly talking negative to them, we are actually conditioning them to avoid us!

Affirmation actually encourages positive behavior in our kids.

Kids want mom and dad's attention.

Look for character traits and behaviors to affirm in your kids' lives.

Your words are 'life-giving'. They're memorable and they're powerful!

#2—Kids need COMMUNICATION.

Kids learn to communicate by talking to adults!

We need to create environments where we allow our kids to talk, where they aren't fearful that we are just going to jump down their throats.

It's in God's design for us as parents to teach and train and talk to and develop a relationship with our kids!

Communication is not just teaching your kids communication skills, it is also building a bridge of communication that you want to have with your kids that will last the rest of your lives.

#3—We need to teach our kids RESPONSIBILITY!

Kids have to learn responsibility!

- a) One way to teach kids responsibility is by giving them CHORES.
- b) Another way we can teach responsibility is through CONSEQUENCES.

Parents—learn to pick your battles wisely!!!

Say "yes" whenever you can to give support to the occasional "no."

The most loving thing you can do for your kids is to fall deeper in love with Jesus Christ! When He is the central focus of your life, He gives you His presence, He gives you His power, and He gives you His peace.