

Parenting





Basics:

Children are born bad not good

“Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him”. (Prov 22:15)

The criminal / sociopath mindset

- 1. What I want, I deserve to have (Entitlement)**
- 2. Because I am entitled to what I want, the ends justify the means (Pragmatism)**
- 3. The rules do not apply to me; therefore, no one has the right to deny me or stand in my way (Narcissism)**

This becomes evident at 18 mths to 2 yrs

Basics 2

- **Behavior modelling does not work**
 - **Children are not animals**
 - **They have a free will**
- **Do it God's way**
- **Raise adults and not children**
- **Prepare them for life**
- **Develop character**
- **Be the parent**

Self-Esteem

- **Worship of self**
- **High self-esteem equals**
 - **Low self-control**
 - **Inability to handle defeat and problems**
 - **Lashing out at others for your problems**
 - **Hard-core criminals as a group rate the highest in self-esteem**
- **Low self-esteem is equally bad**
- **Respect**

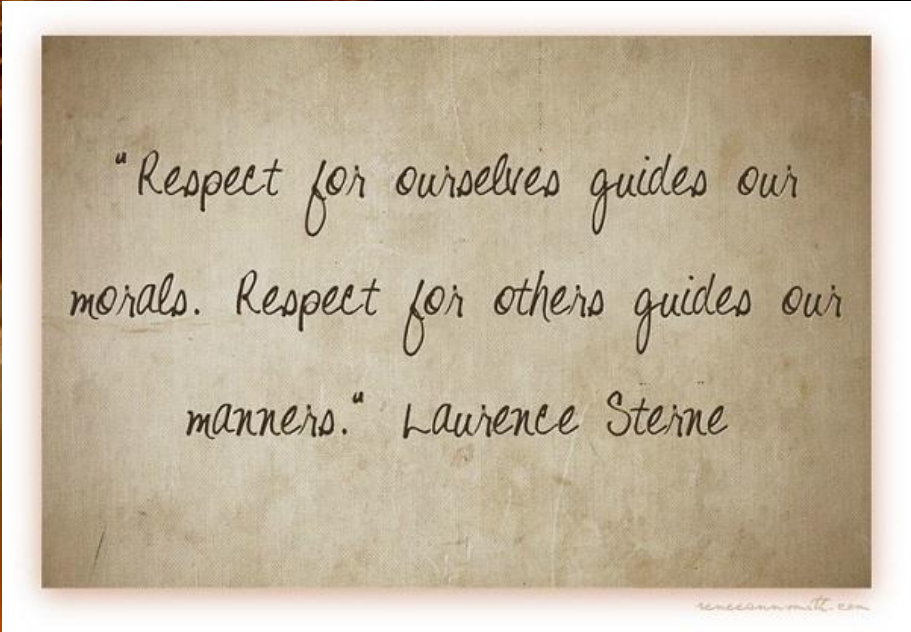


Three “Rs”

- **Respect**
- **Responsibility**
- **Resourcefulness**

Respect

- Others
- Authority
- Self
- Evidenced in
 - Manners
 - Good behavior
 - Followers & team players
 - Social skills vs Electronics

A rectangular image with a white border, containing a handwritten quote on a piece of aged, textured paper. The text is written in a cursive script. The quote reads: "Respect for ourselves guides our morals. Respect for others guides our manners." followed by the name "Laurence Sterne".

*"Respect for ourselves guides our
morals. Respect for others guides our
manners." Laurence Sterne*

Responsibility

- **Being part of a team**
- **Making a contribution vs. something for nothing**
- **Consumption without contribution = entitlement**
- **Taught in chores**
- **Responsibility for own actions**
- **Fight own battles**

Resourcefulness



- **Helicopter parents**
- **Money fixes everything**
- **Hang in and tough it out**
- **Try and try again**
- **Figure it out**

Confusion

- **139,721 books on parenting on Amazon**
- **@ 1" thick this is more than 2 miles of books**
- **Everyone has their own idea on parenting**
- **Overemphasis on the uniqueness of each child**
- **Parents are divided, confused and anxious**
- **And so are the kids**
- **God is not the author of confusion**
- **God's way is simple and applies to all**

Modern Methods

- **Treating children as adults**
- **Finding the psychological “reason” behind bad behavior**
- **Children’s feelings become the norm and the center**
- **Child’s feelings vs. behavior**
- **Transfers the responsibility for bad behavior elsewhere (probably on parents)**
- **Talking the child into proper behavior**
- **Discipline without hurting his feelings**

Results of Modern Methods

1. The child is no longer responsible for his actions
2. The child is transformed from someone who is misbehaving to a victim of circumstances, beyond his control
3. The child's behavior is justified by the circumstances in question
4. The parent's ability to discipline is paralyzed
5. Because they cannot bring themselves to punish the child, the parents become unwitting accomplices in, and enablers of, the child's antisocial behavior

"John Rosemond is one of the few psychologists
I've ever met who always makes sense. This is the best
commonsense guide to parenting I've read in a long time."

—DR. KEVIN LEMAN

John Rosemond

PARENTING *by* THE BOOK™

Biblical Wisdom for Raising Your Child

STUDY GUIDE INCLUDED



Parenting as one flesh

- **Because of the “feelings” emphasis and because fathers are absent**
- **Mothers become the parent**
- **Fathers are simply the “parent’s aide”**
- **Often fathers are treated as one of the children**
- **Often fathers act as one of the children**

Parenting as one flesh

- Parenting begins with the relationship between husband and wife
- How much time do you spend with your spouse vs. parenting?
- Family must be marriage-centered , not child-centered
- Children become the “glue” that holds the marriage together

Consequences of divided parents

- Child lacks understanding of what a true marriage is all about
- Child develops a sense of entitlement
- Child does not receive adequate discipline
- At the normal time of emancipation, child cannot leave – codependency

Parents must parent as one

Develop Character

“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”

(Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

A background image of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with dark, silhouetted clouds. The overall color palette is dominated by warm oranges, yellows, and deep blues.

Develop Character – Shaping the Child's Thinking

- **Discipline child's thoughts**
- **By example**
- **According to God's commands**
- **Behavior flows from thoughts**
- **Teach values**



Develop Character – Shaping the Child's Expression

- **Correcting their speech**
- **Children cannot think and say what they wish**
- **Children don't contradict parents and know better**
- **Don't argue, simply assert what is right**

Develop Character – Shaping the Child's Feelings

- **Discipline child's emotional expression**
- **By example**
- **Child should not be allowed to express emotions inappropriately**
 - **Tantrums, sulking, petulance**
 - **Crying when not appropriate**
 - **Laughing when not appropriate**

Develop Character – Dealing with Tantrums 1

- **Tantrums are expressions of "The Almighty I Am" — the belief, shared by every child, that he/she is the only fish in the pond of any significance and that everyone else — parents especially — exists solely to serve them. When your service is not pleasing, when your obedience is not immediate, The Almighty I Am begins to rage.**
- **It is a battle of the wills and it is for keeps**

Develop Character – Dealing with Tantrums 2

- **Ignoring them does not work**
- **Send them to their room or bathroom until they stop and come out repentant**
- **Third strike – you're in**
- **If outside the home immediately take them home or to some other neutral zone**
- **Don't show emotion – it signals they scored**
- **Anything less than 100% consistency is a waste of time**
- **Most habits take 3 weeks to make or break**

Develop Character –

Parents must be #1 influence

- **Not peers, teachers, coaches, television, music, internet, social media**
- **Time vs. quality time**
- **Time in front of TV or at a theme park is NOT family time.**

Develop Character –

Parents must be #1 influence

- 1. Make a list of influences in child's life: peers, teachers, coaches, television, music, internet, social media.**
- 2. Rank those influences by time spent**
- 3. If you and the family are not #1 make another list of steps you need to take to be on the top of the list.**
- 4. Next to each item in 3. note the exact date you promise to implement the action.**

Parenting Towards the Goal

- **Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.**
- **What do you want him to be like at 30?**
- **Is you're aim a selfish, materialistic, narcissistic, manipulative atheist?**
- **Or is it a honest, reliable, charitable, responsible, compassionate, family man who loves the Lord?**
- **What you sow is what you will reap.**

Parenting Seasons

Season	Age	Parenting Goal
1. Service	1-2	Secure Child
2. Leadership & authority	3-13	Self-governing
3. Mentoring	13-18.5	Emancipated
4. Friendship	Emancipation	Adult relationship

The Bible on Discipline - 1

**Discipline and love are two sides
of the same coin**

**“Because the LORD disciplines those He loves,
as a father the son he delights in.”**

Proverbs 3:12 (NIV)

The Bible on Discipline - 2

**Punishment is never pleasant but produces
great benefit for the person punished**

**“Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the
present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it
yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those
who have been trained by it.” (Hebrews 12:11)**

The Bible on Discipline - 3

**Punishment is essential
to proper discipline**

**“the LORD disciplines those He loves and He
punishes everyone he accepts as a son.”**

(Hebrews 12:6)

The Bible on Discipline - 4

Proper discipline validates the child

**“But if you are without chastening...
then you are illegitimate and not sons.”**

(Hebrews 12:8)

The Bible on Discipline - 5

**Obedient children are a
blessing to the parents**

**“Discipline your son, and he will give you rest;
he will give delight to your heart.”
(Proverbs 29:17 ESV)**

The Bible on Discipline - 6

Children are to obey their parents

**“Children, obey your parents in all things,
for this is well pleasing to the Lord.”**

(Colossians 3:20)

The Bible on Discipline - 7

**Obedience brings blessings
to the children**

**“My son, hear the instruction of your father, And
do not forsake the law of your mother; For they
will be a graceful ornament on your head, And
chains about your neck.”**

(Proverbs 1:8-9)

The Bible on Discipline - 8

**The most obedient children are also the
happiest, most self-respecting children**

**“He who disdains instruction despises his own
soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets
understanding.”**

(Proverbs 15:32)

The Bible on Discipline - 9

**A lack of discipline contributes
to eternal death**

**“Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do
not be a willing party to his death.”**

(Proverbs 19:18 NIV)

The Bible on Discipline - 10

**Discipline is the way
to life eternal**

**“These commands are a lamp,
this teaching is a light, and the corrections of
discipline are the way of life.”**

(Proverbs 6:23 NIV)

Discipline and Leadership

Discipline means to make a disciple

Leaders exercise discipline and have disciples

Parents are to be leaders in their homes

1Tim 3:4-5

Discipline and Leadership

1Tim 3:4-5

...one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?)

proistēmi = stand before

Effective Leaders

- Disapprove of what you do, but always approve of you
- Lead by example
- Are enthusiastic about their vision
- Motivate others through positive coaching and encouragement
- Are decisive and willing to make unpopular decisions
- Stay the course when the going gets rough

Good Leaders:

- Are just
- Act as though they know what they are doing
- Command proper behavior on the part of their disciples
- Command in a calm, confident manner
- Command, never demand
- Know how to be followers themselves (Mat 8:9)

Discipline and Leadership

- Leaders lead and do not drive
- Leaders lead and are not led by their followers
- Leaders have disciplined themselves first

The Rod

**Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child;
The rod of correction will drive it far from him.**

Proverbs 22:15

The Rod of Discipline

If the word “rod” is preceded by “the” it is a metaphor:

I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of His wrath. (Lamentations 3:1)

**The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.
(Proverbs 29:15)**

The Rod of Discipline

If the word “rod” is preceded by “a” it is literal:

“And if a man beats his male or female servant with a rod, so that he dies under his hand, he shall surely be punished.” (Exodus 21:20)

The Rod of Discipline

The rod of God's discipline in Scripture:

- Flows from a legitimate authority
- Is consistent and true
- Separates right behavior from wrong
- Establishes boundaries
- Compels action and change

Arguments Against Spanking

- Spanking is likely to escalate into child abuse
- Spanking teaches children it is OK to hit people who upset you
- There is always an alternative to spanking

Facts About Spanking

- Is most effective between ages 2-6
- It is most effective when coupled with another consequence such as loss of privileges
- The more frequent the spankings, the less effective – children become “immune”

Spanking – the Practical

- For the most serious offences:
 - Belligerence
 - Defiance
 - Stealing
 - Lying

Spanking – the Practical

- With the hand
- With discussion
- Reassure the child of your love
- Never out of anger

Commanding Communication

**“But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’
For whatever is more than these is from the evil
one.” (Matthew 5:37)**

“Yes” does not mean “I wish you would”

“No” does not mean “I wish you won’t”

Commanding Communication

What part of “no” don’t you understand?



Commanding Communication

Say what you mean,

Mean what you say

Do what you say you are going to do.

Commanding Communication

The Argumentative Child

Has learnt that:

- 1. Parents will argue with them**
- 2. Arguments are likely to end in their favor**

Commanding Communication

The Argumentative Child

If a child does not like a decision the parent has made, the child is not going to like the reason for the decision and nothing the parent says will change that.

Commanding Communication

The Argumentative Child

**There is no such thing as a child
who cannot take no for an answer.**

**There are only parents who
cannot say no and mean it.**

The problem is not your child, it is you.

Commanding Communication

How to say No – 4 steps

1. No, you my not
2. Give a 5-word reason:

You're not old enough

We don't have the money

You might get hurt

We don't have the time

We don't believe in that

Commanding Communication

How to say No – 4 steps

3. If the child stomps his feet etc, say: “When I was your age I would not like that decision either”
4. Turn and walk away – leave the child to deal with that.

Commanding Communication

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Commanding Communication

Because I said so

Myths about “Because I said so”:

- **Kills his curiosity**
- **Denies the child’s right to know**
- **Makes him feel that his point of view does not matter**
- **Lowers his self-esteem**

Commanding Communication

Because I said so

Truth about “Because I said so”:

Previous generations:

- **Remained Curious**
- **Did better at school**
- **Suffered less depression**

Commanding Communication

Because I said so

The facts about “Because I said so”:

- **It is a statement of leadership**
- **Prevents arguments – better for child and parent**

Commanding Communication

Because I said so

If you feel you need to explain your decisions

- **It looks like you are not sure about yourself**
- **Invites people to question whether the decision is any good**

Commanding Communication

Because I said so

Leadership requires decisiveness

- Do not follow the example of politicians
- They are looking for approval
- They do not lead
- They won't make unpopular decisions
- Are you a politician-parent or a leader-parent?

Commanding Communication

Start Telling

- Parents plead, bargain, bribe, cajole, reason, explain, and threaten
- They don't just tell
- Stop pleading and the like and start telling

Commanding Communication

Start Telling

Leadership speech is:

- Clear
- Concise
- Commanding

Commanding Communication

**If plan A (Commanding Communication) fails,
then resort to plan B: Compelling Consequences**

Compelling Consequences

Those who spare the rod of discipline
hate their children.

Those who love their children
care enough to discipline them.

Proverbs 13:24 (NLT)

Compelling Consequences

Consequences should be compelling enough
to establish control now and
gain correct action in the future.

The emotional consequences of children's
disobedience is borne by parents – the monkey is
on your back. Take the monkey off and put it
where it belongs – on your child.

Compelling Consequences

Punishment must knock the proverbial wind out of the child:

It needs to be:

- **Unexpected**
- **Get his attention**
- **Create a permanent memory (Be unforgettable)**

Compelling Consequences

Must be Unforgettable

- A consequence that isn't memorable won't last
- Compelling consequences create permanent, decidedly unpleasant memories.
- Punishment should not fit the crime by modern standards
- Bad behavior must be nipped in the bud before it grows into something more serious

Compelling Consequences

Time-out

- Time-out is generally ineffective in curing major behavioral problems
- It only works for toddlers up to 3
- And for children who are generally well-behaved

Compelling Consequences

Do what you can, when you can

- Behavior modelling requires immediate punishment – eg. A dog
- Children are not dogs and can remember
- With the exception of toddlers under 3,
- Punishment can follow hours or even days after the crime

Consistency

- Between parents
- Between parents and grandparents
- From day to day and moment by moment
- Consistent but not predictable

Creative Consequences

- Keep them guessing
- Don't allow them to develop resistance to the consequences

Creative Consequences

- Time-out for an hour
- Sent to room
- Loss of privileges
- Loss of screens
- Gating
- Writing lines
- Loss of the Garden of Eden
- Etc.

Children and Money

- Don't spoil them – a treat should be a treat
- Don't feed the feeling of entitlement
- Too many fancy toys kill creativity
- Money wasted on lavish parties, endless entertainment and useless gifts could be invested in the child's education

Allowances

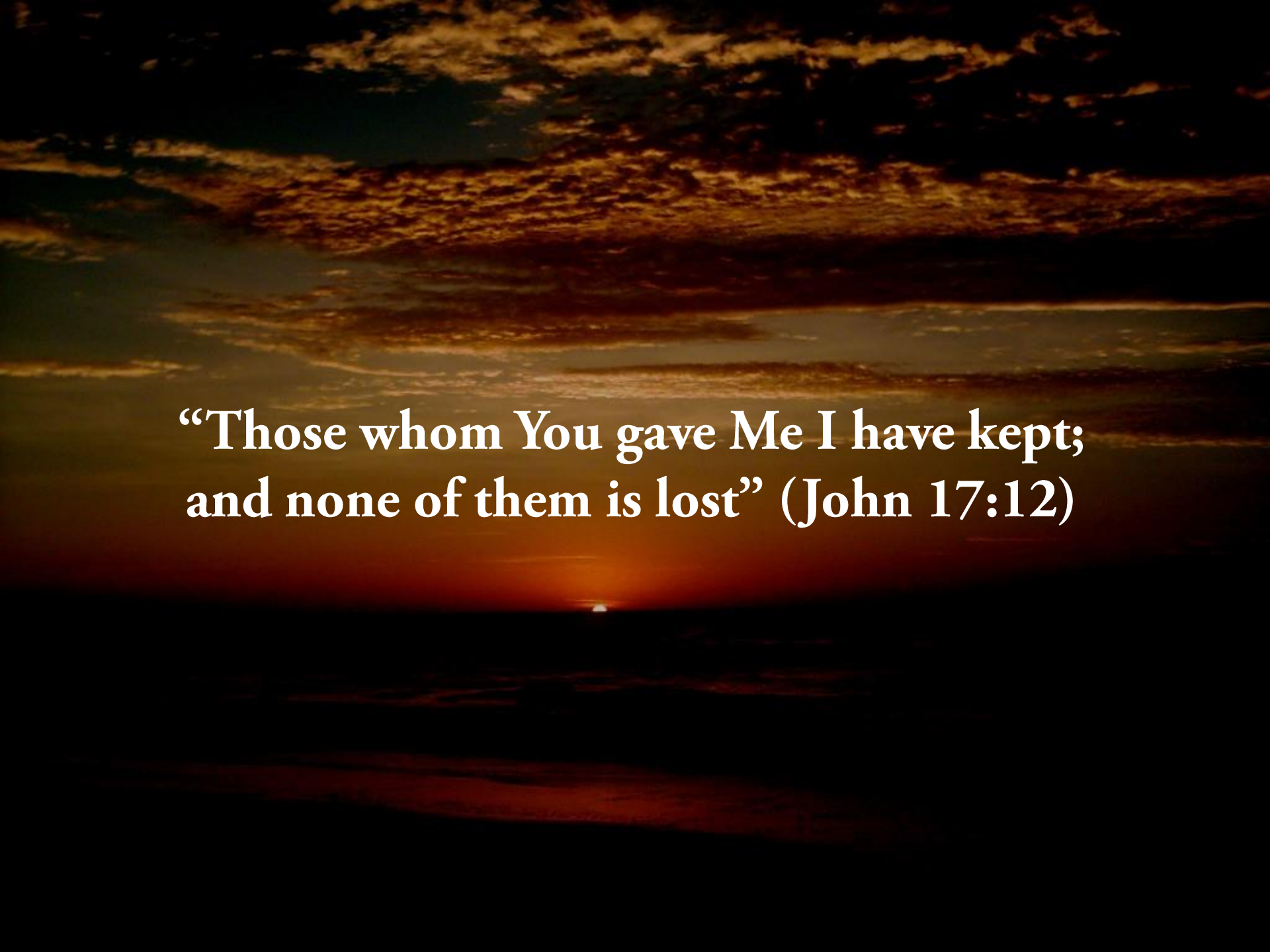
- Today (2015), 70% of kids get one up from 47% in 2013 (T. Rowe Price)
- It is a teaching tool: how to be shrewd, faithful, trustworthy, efficient, effective, accountable, generous, and so on
- Don't tie it to chores – separate the two issues
- Teach the link between work and money by rewarding jobs over-and-above chores

Allowances

- \$1 per week for every year of age OR
- Budget what he should need for snacks, games etc.
- As he gets older give him a budget which includes clothes, cell-phone pre-paid time etc.
- Pay on time

Allowances

- Don't bail him out if he runs short
- Teach them NOT to borrow
- Teach saving, maybe with the incentive of an extra quarter for each dollar saved
- Teach giving



**“Those whom You gave Me I have kept;
and none of them is lost” (John 17:12)**

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a dark ocean. The sun is a bright, glowing orb just above the horizon, casting a warm, orange-red light across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky is filled with dark, textured clouds that catch the low light, creating a pattern of orange and yellow highlights against the deep blue and black background. The ocean below is dark and calm, with a few small, dark shapes visible on the horizon.

Will the Circle be Unbroken?