

Marriage and Family: Enjoying The Journey
301: Healthy Friends & Family / Part-2 Parenting, Step-Parenting, Grand-Parenting & Mentoring Essentials

LESSON 1: Basic Principles of Positive Parenting

1. Positive parenting begins with positive, clear-cut objective.

Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)

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

Ephesians 6:4 (MSG)

⁴Fathers, don't exasperate your children by coming down hard on them. Take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master.

- ? The Principle of focus
- ? Proactive parenting prevents reactive fearful methods
- ? God's dream vs. the world's dream for your child.

Romans 8:29 (NIV)

²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.



2. Positive parenting demands we practice what we preach.

1 Corinthians 4:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴I am not writing this to shame you, but to warn you, as my dear children.

¹⁵Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

¹⁶Therefore I urge you to imitate me.

- ? The Principle of modeling. More is caught than taught.

Luke 6:40 (NIV)

⁴⁰A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.

3. Discussion Questions:

- 3.1 Always start your group time by using nametags and writing your names in **BIG BOLD** letters. This will help you to learn and remember names and people.
- 3.2 How do you understand the principle of focus? What would you do to apply this?
- 3.3 What do you understand the principle of modeling to be? What would you need to change to be better at applying this principle?
- 3.4 Turn to the “Prayer Journal” in the Appendix. Share and record prayer requests for you and for your family.
- 3.5 **ALWAYS END ON TIME.** Spend the last few minutes in prayer.