

Grace-Based Parenting (Part 2 – Blending Love and Discipline)

- I. Grace-based parents understand the need for both love and discipline in a child's life.
- A. Christ's Example: We must blend grace and truth like Christ (John 1:14,17; John 8:1-11; Ephesians 4:15)
 - B. Our Child's Nature: Our children are both “wonderfully made” and “truly marred” by sin.
 - i. In God's Image: Our children uniquely bear God's image (Genesis 1:26, 27; Psalm 139:14).
 - ii. Sin Nature: Our children have a sin nature which longs to be brought under control (Psalm 51:5).
- II. Grace-based parents understand the need to express love tangibly (Mark 10:13-16).
- A. Focused attention
 - B. Eye Contact
 - C. Physical touch
- III. Grace-based parents hold their child accountable to authority through appropriate discipline.
- Hebrews 12:6-11; Proverbs 19:18; 22:15; 23:13; 29:17
- Love & Discipline – Four Parenting Styles**

 1. Lots of love, Little discipline = **Permissive**
 2. Lots of discipline, Little love = **Authoritarian**
 3. Little of Either = **Neglectful**
 4. Plenty of Both = **Authoritative** (*Best self worth, etc.)
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- A. A child's accountability for their obedience transfers to God with age.
 - B. Our control of our child's obedience must decrease appropriately with age.
 - Discipline Methods – Rebuke (Proverbs 13:21), Natural Consequences (Proverbs 13:18), Logical Consequences, Corporal Punishment (Proverbs 13:24; 20:30; 22:15)