

How Do I Maintain a Healthy Relationship with My Kids?

Message 03 of the series "Helpline"

1. The need for relationship is key.

"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?' Jesus replied, 'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40 (NLT)

"...let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes." Ephesians 4:23 (NLT)

2. Relationship compels obedience.

"Fathers, do not aggravate your children, or they will become discouraged." Colossians 3:21 (NLT)

"For the commandments say, 'You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet. These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law." Romans 13:9-10 (NLT)

3. There is always a need behind the behavior.

"The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out." Proverbs 20:5 (NIV)

"My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires." James 1:19-20 (NIV)

4. Seek the heart.

"The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning." Lamentations 3:22-23 (N

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NIV)

"The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unending love. He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. For his unending love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust." Psalm 103:8-14 (NLT)

Resources

The Whole Brain Child - Dr. Dan Siegel, Bantam, 2012

The Connected Child - Dr. Karyn Purvis, McGraw-Hill Education 2007