

THE ART OF PARENTING

Hope Fellowship

January 30, 2011

S3-1805

•SLIDE #1: The art of parenting (I want a new family)

•SLIDE #2: I wish somebody would invent a tool where we could press a button and be inside our children's brains and know exactly what they are thinking.

•SLIDE #3: This child covering his eyes? "Ohhh, I didn't make it to the potty—I lost my M&M reward again."

•SLIDE #4: I know what is going on in the mind of this teenager, Absolutely nothing

•SLIDE #5 Well, of course there are things going on: What is he thinking? He is thinking about the Birds and the Bees

Look right in the middle: "I am the center of the universe" lobe.

There is the Shut the Door reflex Lobe.

And the "I have all the answers" lobe.

And the "Every episode of the Simpsons lobe.

•SLIDE #6: Parent's have their own distinctive Brain Organization

The Worry Center. It increases dramatically when child turns 13.

Curse Control and Effective Bribes.

Goodnight Moon word for word. Ok. Parents, How many of you are Good Night Mooners?

Tiny 1% Memory Of What Life Was Like Before Children.

•SLIDE #7: Toddler brain

Giant Whining Lobe

Dirty word permanent storage area

Barney's Song

•SLIDE #8: Of course, all good families have a pet.

•SLIDE #9: What goes on in the mind of the family pet?

Rolling in Smelly stuff; Licking self; selfless devotion. Humping legs and Balls.

Now, let's really go into our minds and see some basic needs that are going on in there. Help us not only if we are parents: Insights to life no matter how old we are.

- SLIDE #10: What was the first human crisis?
25% Genesis 4: first murder
75% Genesis 3: ate forbidden fruit and plunged entire world into sin.

The first human crisis was before that.

- SLIDE #11: Genesis 2:18: God said to Adam, “It is not good.”
What’s not good? Garden, dominion, no smoke, top of the ladder...

- SLIDE #12: “It is not good for Man to be alone.”

- SLIDE #13: “It is not good for Man to be alone. I will make help mate suitable for him.”

Man is fallen; but he is also alone: He needs a wife to help take away aloneness: companionship
Children are fallen—and, they are very alone. They need their parents to take away their
aloneness.

Deal with forgiveness of sin in a moments time.
We will deal with aloneness the rest of our lives.

- SLIDE #14: ORLANDO CHILD
- SLIDE #15: Teenager
- SLIDE #16: Nursing home

HAND OUT: DEFINE ALONENESS: TOP TEN INTIMACY NEEDS

- SLIDE #17: What Love Looks Like What Aloneness Looks Like

Acceptance	Rejection
Affection	Abuse
Appreciation	Criticism
Approval	Condemnation
Attention	Overlooked
Encouragement	Discouragement
Comfort	Hurt
Respect	Ridicule
Security	Instability
Support	Neglect

Fortunate to grow up in a family like the one on the left.
Unfortunately, most don't.
I am so sorry.

- SLIDE #18: Sovereign God could create Adam any way He wanted to and He chose to create
Adam needy.
Babies have built-in needs. Food, air, water - and attention, affection, approval,

Child falls and then looks around to see who's looking! No one: Mom

At what age do we outgrow the need for air, food and water: we need them all of our lives.
At what age do we outgrow the need for comfort? How old no longer need appreciation?

I want to read a POEM written by a thirteen-year-old teenager that expresses the loneliness, isolation, self-condemnatory rejection felt by millions of Americans:

- SLIDE #19: People come and people go,
But never get attached
“Cause usu’lly by the time you do
They drop you down the hatch.
- SLIDE #20: People only care about what you wear
As stupid people do,
But they never look inside of you
To see the real, true you.
- SLIDE #21: Older sisters let you know
How awful that they feel
But sometimes it is in a way
That shoots straight for the kill.
- SLIDE #22: I know that life is full of twists and turns
And the occasional little loop,
But I feel I have to tell you
That I really feel like poop.”

Julie and I found that poem on the floor of our youngest daughter’s bedroom one day after she had left for school. It absolutely broke our hearts.

We were so busy that we had not seen this? Well, we knew she was hurting. Middle school is a tough time for a girl.

All children are different. They express aloneness in different ways.

Bronwyn suffered inside and finally it came oozing out.,

Brie was more outspoken about this.

STORY: Time To God

Began to change our parenting:

STORY: Carport prayer: “I am busy taking care of God’s work and so it’s only fair that you take care of my kids today.

Eli—Samuel—David

I am the only one who can take on the role of father for my children—and I don’t do it no one else will.

God said, “Roger, I really want to minister to Bronwyn. Do you believe that?” “Yes, God.” “Well, Roger, too often I feel like I have to minister to her alone. I need you to help me.”

●SLIDE #: 23: The transformation in our parenting when we began to PRACTICE THE PRINCIPLE OF “WITH.”

●SLIDE#: 24: MARK 3:14: “Jesus appointed twelve—designating them apostles—that they might be WITH HIM and that he might send them out to preach.”

Jesus did not send them out until the final year of His ministry. They spent 2½ years just being with Him.

In our culture we have lost the wonder of being with. We are so frantically wanting to go and do.

Imagine what people said to disciples during the first 2½ years? “What do you do here in ministry?”

“Well, we are here with Him.” “Yeah, but what do you do?” “We just hang around with him.” The only one who held a job during those 2½ years was who? Judas. I bet Judas never embraced the wonder of with.

Where do you learn the wonder of “with”? You learn with at home—just hanging with your family.

●SLIDE #25: Psalm 127:3: “Children are a gift from the Lord.”

Let me show you the tragedy that often happens in families. God gives us children like beautiful packages with a bow on top.

♥SLIDE #26: Too often God comes back six months or six years or ten years later and those packages are still sitting there unwrapped.

#1 complaint of teenagers is, “My parents don’t listen to me.”
Close behind: “My parents don’t even know who I am.”

One of the main jobs of mom and dad is to help relieve our children’s aloneness.

●SLIDE #27: We can impart life to our children by meeting their deepest needs.

First public day of Christ’s ministry:

Goes for baptism. Voice: “This is my Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.”
He hasn’t done anything yet!

Miss passage if we think the voice was for the crowd!

This is a loving father affirming His Son and that affirmation empowered his ministry.

Parents, try that! Stop child, look them in the eye. “I love you, I’m so proud of you. Glad you’re my son or daughter.”

Leave them standing there in awe! “What did I do?” Nothing!

That’s what grace looks like, what affirmation sounds like!

Some people live a life time still trying to get mom’s and dad’s approval.

●SLIDE #28: WHEN NEEDS ARE MET, ALL KINDS OF GOOD THINGS HAPPEN.

Brie and Bronwyn always wanted to go to mall—Thank God for Laptops!

“Bronwyn got her drivers license: “Dad, let’s go to the mall.”
Why, you don’t need me: car keys and credit card.”

Decided to spend time with her. No more taking work to the mall. “Be with me.”

Christmas present last year: picture of her and me in dancing in driveway:

●SLIDE #29: “Thanks for talking the time.”

●~~SLIDE #30~~:

●SLIDE #31: BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THOSE SAME NEEDS GO UNMET?

Let’s say a six year old child comes running to mom with a picture she has just colored. She is thinking, “I am going to show this to my mommy!” “Look at what I colored! Look at what I did!” Mom is busy: “Not now! Can’t you see that I am busy.”

We are wired to Think, “What’s wrong with me? I don’t matter. I am not important.

Another child is wired differently: “I’ll try harder. I’ll do better next time.” This correlates in later life with perfectionism and workaholicism.

●SLIDE #32

Imagine that this might produce some Unhealthy Behaviors:

Child returns to room angry and begins to mark on wall with crayons.

It is not uncommon to walk in on a child’s unproductive behaviors and begin to discipline the behavior without understanding what is going on underneath.

“Stop coloring on that wall!!!”

Who is going to discipline dad?

We tend to react to people’s behavior—or we will minister to their needs.

Now let me tell you something that *Most Women In This Room Already Know*, and most men are struggling with:

●SLIDE #33: Aloneness is not an issue of the rational mind. Aloneness is an issue of the human heart.

Only relationships remove aloneness.

CHILD AFRAID OF DARK. No monsters...can’t get through security system.

No! Rational reasons don’t minister to human heart.

Go sit with your child and soothe them back to sleep.

Only relationships remove aloneness.

TAKE HOME

30 Needs Sheet

Use in marriage seminars: Greatest hindrance to oneness in marriage is the failure to leave mom and dad.

How well did mom and dad do in meeting these needs?

Young couple with three preschoolers: Blank sheets

Tape to refrigerator: meet all thirty needs ever month.

BRONWYN AND CARPORT