

Confessions

#2: I want to give my kids back to God

How To Love Them When You Want To Give Them Back

1. Balance _____

John 1:14 *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Definition: “Grace is unbroken, uninterrupted, unearned, accepting relationship. You can be exactly who you are. You do not need to hide your thoughts or feelings; you do not need to perform; you do not need to do anything to be loved. Truth is what is real; it describes how things really are.” Henry Cloud

Grace

Truth

2. Stop _____

Ephesians 6:4 *Fathers, do not exasperate your children;*

3. Listen for the heart _____

How connection happens:

They talk – you experience them – you share what you have heard and experienced about their experience – they experience you as having heard them. They then know you are with them. This creates connection! (Henry Cloud)

Active Listening

Psalm 10:17 *You hear, O LORD, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,*

Nehemiah 9:28 *And when they cried out to you again, you heard from heaven, and in your compassion you delivered them time after time.*

Book recommendations:

- *Changes that Heal by Henry Cloud
- *Integrity by Henry Cloud

Minors in our house:

- Putting the dishes away exactly
- Putting the food away exactly
- Spotless room every day
- C's on a report card
- Style and color of clothing (as long as it's modest)
- Piercings and earrings
- Hobbies and sports
- Musical choices
- Hair style and length

Majors in our house:

- D or F on a report card
- Treating a family member disrespectfully
- Drugs and alcohol
- Sexual activity
- Not contributing to the family
- Friend selection

What would you put on your list?

Do's and don'ts of active listening:

Do:

- Reflect what was said by repeating it back in some form
- Clarify content by asking questions about anything you didn't quite get

Don't:

- Give advice
- Criticize or compliment
- Compare the situation to something you have gone through