

FOUR QUESTIONS EVERY KID NEEDS ANSWERED

WHAT ARE THE BOUNDARIES? JASON STRAND

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KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 6:1

Children obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do.

Proverbs 22:15

A youngster's heart is filled with foolishness, but discipline will drive it far away.

Hebrews 12:5-6

Don't ignore it when the Lord disciplines you, and don't be discouraged when he corrects you. For the Lord disciplines those that he loves.

Hebrews 12:11

No discipline is enjoyable while it's happening but afterward there will be a quiet harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do.

James 1:5

If you need wisdom, ask God.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 1:6

1 Corinthians 4:15-16

NOTES

DISCUSSION



GUIDE

EVERY CHILD HAS TWO PRIMARY NEEDS: LOVE AND LIMITS.

They want to know that they are loved no matter what and that they can't get whatever they want when they want it. This balance means showing over-the-top, unconditional love while, at the same time setting up limits that will raise a responsible man or woman of God. So, whether you're a parent, a nanny, an aunt, uncle or grandparent, you can strive to put this balance into practice with the kids in your life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.** Are you better at love or limits in your relationships? Talk about your family background—did you grow up in a house that was better at one than the other? How has that affected your outlook as an adult?
- 2.** Read **Hebrews 12:6**. Looking back at your own life, can you think of an example of how, at the time, discipline seemed unpleasant to you but now, as an adult, you see how it was beneficial?
- 3.** Jason talked about three practical steps to discipline a child with love: take a step back instead of forward, have a phrase (i.e., Lord, give me wisdom. I love this kid.), and ask yourself, "What does this child need right now?" These steps also happen to be great when facing confrontation with people of any age. Which one of these do you need to work on when facing a frustrating situation, and why? What is a phrase that you can use when your blood pressure starts to rise?
- 4.** God wants us to instruct kids in what we want them to do, not just what we don't. What is one area your child needs instruction in? It could be lying, hitting their sibling, yelling, violating curfew, etc. Take time this week to decide what the consequence will be if they violate that instruction.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Share a way that you guard your child's heart on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram using **#ItTakesAVillage**.

COMMIT TO MEMORY

If you need wisdom, ask God. **James 1:3**