



HOME GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Share your fondest memory about your mother.
2. Read Proverbs 22:6. What is the promise given as a result of following this verse in child-rearing? What are the limitations of this verse?
3. Read Ephesians 6:1-4. What does it mean to provoke a child? What negative responses could be expected from a child that is provoked? Why is this directed towards fathers? Since mothers are not addressed in this verse, is it ok for them to provoke their children? Why or why not?
4. Why is it difficult for some parents to admit wrongs, apologize, and/or ask forgiveness? Did your parents ever apologize to you?
5. Read Proverbs 3:5-6. Children learn what lesson when a parent lives in constant panic?
6. Read Colossians 3:15-17. What affect does yelling and displaying anger have on the children, your spouse, etc?

No form of vice, nor worldliness, not greed of gold, not drunkenness itself, does more to un-Christianize society than evil temper. For embittering life, for breaking up communities, for destroying the most sacred relationships, for devastating homes, for withering up men and women, for taking the bloom off childhood; in short, for sheer gratuitous misery-producing power, this influence stands alone.
Henry Drummond

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD REBEL

1. Refrain from showing them affection and acceptance.

Psalm 127:3-5a—Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth. 5 Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them;

2. Don't spend much time with them.

James 4:14—whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

3. Restrict their freedom so they feel trapped.

Proverbs 22:6—Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

4. Let the punishment exceed the crime when they misbehave.

1 John 1:9—If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

5. Look for ways to provoke your child.

Ephesians 6:1-4—Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "*Honor your father and mother,*" which is the first commandment with promise: 3 "*that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.*" 4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

6. Be hypocritical about your faith.

Matthew 6:5-6—"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

7. **Believe the Bible but don't live it.**

2 Timothy 3:16-17—All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

8. **Go to church but remain unchanged.**

2 Corinthians 5:17—Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

9. **Never admit that you are wrong about anything.**

Proverbs 16:18—Pride *goes* before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 29:23—A man's pride will bring him low, But the humble in spirit will retain honor.

1 Peter 5:6—Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

10. **Speak your mind no matter how much damage is done.**

Proverbs 29:11—A fool vents all his feelings, But a wise *man* holds them back.

James 1:19-20—So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

11. **Don't model a good marriage.**

Ephesians 5:33—Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects *her* husband.

12. **Never extend mercy and forgiveness.**

Ephesians 4:30-32—And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

13. **Criticize those in authority.**

1 Timothy 2:1-2—Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

14. **Concentrate on the negative rather than the positive.**

Proverbs 17:22—A merry heart does good, *like* medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.

Philippians 4:8—Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

15. **Live in panic instead of trusting God.**

Proverbs 3:5-6—Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

16. **Yell at your children.**

Colossians 3:15-17—And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

17. **Complain about your life situation.**

Romans 8:28—And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.