

Different

Different—Raising Well Adjusted Children

The goal of parenting is to raise children who become well-adjusted, successful adults.

Good Parenting

- Surefire formulas don't exist. Even though there are no guarantees, there are biblical parenting principles to follow.
- This must be your personal mission as a parent. These are your children. You must take personal responsibility for your home's atmosphere—ethos.
- Accept that you are not, and never will be, a perfect parent. Yet, this is no excuse for not learning and improving.
- Do what is best for your child, not necessarily what they want or whine for, or what is easiest to do.
- Craig, "We love our kids and want to give them freedom, but not so much that it harms them. We love our kids and want to provide for them, but we don't want to spoil them."
- Craig uses the term Organic Parenting.

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

- Work God into everyday conversations.
- Teach your kids to pray out loud.
- Craig, "While normal people separate life into compartments (school, home, sports, work, friends and church), weird (different) people know that everything is spiritual. ... We live aware of God moment by moment. He is not part of our lives; God is our life."

Rules for raising a delinquent child

- Give him everything he wants and whines for
- Don't correct bad behavior
- Pick up after her always
- Quarrel frequently in his presence
- Take her side against authority figures

Create a loving atmosphere in your home

- Cheer victories & comfort defeats
- Reward effort
- Laughter is best medicine
- Remember they are children, not adults
- Listen to them. If you listen to your children when they are young and have nothing much to say, it is more likely they will listen to you when they are teenagers. Listen to the silly nonsensical chatter now, so that you may discuss serious issues later.

Craig's List

- *Train them to manage God's money.* [Proverbs 3:9-10 NLT] 9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. 10 Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.
- *Train them to carefully select friends.* [Proverbs 13:20 NLT] 20 Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.
- *Train them to watch their words.* [Luke 6:45 NLT] 45 A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.
- *Train them to be responsible.* [Proverbs 6:6-11 NLT] 6 Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise! 7 Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, 8 they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. 9 But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep? When will you wake up? 10 A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- 11 then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.
- *Train them to guard their minds.* [Romans 12:2 NLT] 2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.
- *Train them to be generous.* [Proverbs 11:25 NLT] 25 The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.
- *Train them to fear God.* [Proverbs 1:7 NLT] 7 Fear of the LORD is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

God is our Heavenly Father

- The way the Bible instructs us to raise our children is just who God deals with us as His children.
- God created us as unique and wonderful children. He loves us individually. He loves us enough to give us free will to choose how we respond to him.
- God is the best Father ever. He is our example of how to be parents to our children.