

RADICAL PARENTING

(FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR MARRIAGE)

by Pastor Steve McInroy

Mark 8:35 “For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel’s shall save it.”

Three “radical” parenting tips for your marriage . . .

I. Love _____.

Mark 12:30 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

John 15:5 “I am the vine; and you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.”

Psalms 1:1-3 “Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”

II. Love your _____.

Ephesians 5:29-33 (MSG) “No one abuses his own body, does he? No, he feeds and pampers it. That’s how Christ treats us, the church, since we are part of His body. And this is why a man leaves father and mother and cherishes his wife. No longer two, they become one flesh. This is a huge mystery, and I don’t pretend to understand it all. What is clearest to me is the way Christ treats the church. And this provides a good picture of how each husband is to treat his wife, loving himself in loving her, and how each wife is to honor her husband.”

“How can a man be a believer in Jesus Christ, and yet have a cold and hard heart in the things of the kingdom toward his children and mate? You will find that where sons and daughters have turned out a curse to their parents, and those parents have been Christians, it might have been attributed to this — that while parents have been Christians, they were not Christians at home. I believe nine out of ten such cases can be explained that way.” – Charles Spurgeon

III. Love your _____.

Psalm 144:12 (NAS) “Let our sons in their youth be as grown-up plants. And our daughters as corner pillars fashioned for a palace.”

“Ours is the only era in the entire history of human life on this planet in which the elders of the tribe ask its newer members what the tribal rules and standards of expected behavior would be.” – Paul Ramsey (Princeton University)

ABC’s of loving your children . . .

A. You are your children’s _____!

Ephesians 6:1 “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

B. The _____ is your best and final resource.

John 1:1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

Hebrews 4:12 “For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

C. Get _____ from godly examples.

Proverbs 15:22 “Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.”