

Our first Parenting Class was awesome! We learned about “How to Talk So Your Kids Will Listen and How to Listen So Your Kids Will Talk.”

Each Monday I will recap the main points of our speaker and share any scripture references that might be helpful.

If you are on this e-mail group and wish to not receive these updates just send me a quick e-mail and I will take you off. On Fridays, I will e-mail out a reminder about Sunday’s topic. This class runs through March 27.

Sunday’s Lesson -

“How to Talk So your Kids Will Listen and How to Listen So Your Kids Will Talk”

1. Talk to Your Kids – have fun with them, don’t talk down to them.
2. Learn the difference between responding and reacting.
3. The tone of your voice makes all the difference – do you act like a king when speaking or do you speak with understanding in your voice? (Colossians 4:6)
4. Non-threatening vs. threatening tone in communication.
5. Speak more in statements rather than questions. Rather than asking “How did you do on that test today?” Consider rephrasing “I know you were concerned about that test today, was it as difficult as you thought?”
6. Have a “yes” face! – Doesn’t mean you have to say “yes” to everything but let your kids have some yes answers. Grant in fantasy what you can’t in reality. Let them figure out what they can or can’t have based on reality.
7. Exchange ideas and observations – let your children have input on things. Ask their opinions.
8. Always project an attitude of openness. (I Thessalonians 5:11) – Does the relationship you are building with your children now, constitute that they will have an ability to talk to you about the “really big things” later in life?
9. Admit your mistakes – let them see that you aren’t perfect. Be willing to tell them that you were wrong and how you are able to fix it.

As we all agreed – consistency is so hard in parenting and keeping a positive attitude is difficult. Taking time to stop and think before responding seemed to be the key of the day.

Have a great week and pray for one another as we embark on this wonderful journey of parenting and grandparenting together!