

VICTORY OVER FAILURES WORKSHEET (I John 5:4-5)

Column (4) Expansion

(4) My plan not to repeat this sin and to respond biblically instead (Titus 2:11-14)

Speak biblically.

I will teach my children the principles in God's word, in order to help them know right from wrong, and to help them know that the Bible is the one true source for all wisdom. I will speak calmly when problems arise, and speak to them in love, instead of speaking harshly, or raising my voice to them.

Act biblically.

I will show my children how to look in God's word for the put-offs and put-ons in each situation. I will be more consistent in my discipline, so that they will know exactly what to expect if they choose to be disobedient to me, and as a result, to God. I will continue to teach them to kneel and ask for forgiveness from God as soon as they realize that they have been disobedient to God, and also to seek forgiveness and reconciliation from those against whom they have sinned. I will not seek to be the final authority in their lives, but will point them to the true authority, God's word.

My contingency plan for overcoming self-exaltation:

As soon as I feel like using my authority instead of God's word to discipline my children, I will **S.T.O.P.**:

Surrender my "right" to be the final authority in my children's lives. I will ask for forgiveness (from God and my children) as soon as I realize that I am getting in God's way, and I will allow Him to work through me to prepare my children to meet Him someday.

Think of the situation biblically, reminding myself that no situation is worth being disobedient to God by refusing to bring up my children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Open my heart to receive God's wisdom. I will open God's word and find the necessary put-offs and put-ons to teach my children in each situation as it arises.

Prepare for God's blessings, knowing that He will richly bless those who seek to do His will. I will remind myself that God is working in my children's lives every moment, and that foolish teachings will surely be remembered, as will biblical teachings. I will remember that God can use any situation to make me and my children more Christ-like as we are obedient to His will.

If I fail to keep my plan:

I will confess my sinful behavior to the Lord and seek to be reconciled to those against whom I have sinned.

I will start on my basic plan again immediately, making adjustments as necessary.