

QUESTIONS TO EVALUATE PARENTING SKILLS

The following questions are designed to help you as a parent to think through, objectively, the role you've played in the lives of your children. Answer these questions for yourself only, as honestly and completely as possible, because they will help you pinpoint certain "problem-pattern" areas. (The time you invest in this will be very beneficial and enlightening).

1. How have the ways your parents raised you influenced you as a parent?
2. What are some "principles" or guidelines (if any) that you've operated from in regards to raising your children?
3. a. What are the methods of discipline you've used with each child?  
b. Have they changed or differed with each individual child? How?  
c. What has worked in disciplining?  
d. What hasn't worked?
4. Do you know what your children think of you as a parent? What? (if not, ask them)
5. a. What mistakes have you made as a parent? If you think you've "failed", in what way?  
b. What would you change if you could?
6. a. What problems do you see that your children have?  
b. What have you done to correct/help them?
7. What do you see are your children's needs?
8. How do your children differ from one another? (personality, temperment, etc.)

9. How has the following been responsible for any present problems:

- a. being "unfair" -
- b. punishment -
- c. favoritism -
- d. double standards -
- e. inconsistency -

10. What to you are the most important elements in raising children?

11. Describe the relationship you have with each of your children?

12. a. What has been the areas of "breakdown" in the past in your relationship?

b. Can you think of any unresolved conflicts/resentments that your child could be holding against you?

c. How can they be resolved?

How can you be reconciled?

How can they be restored?

13. What are the necessary elements in building a relationship with anyone?

14. What will it take on your part to rebuild your relationship with \_\_\_\_\_?

15. a. How can you show an interest in each of your children?

b. How can you establish involvement?

c. How can you prove love and understanding?

d. How can you create the atmosphere that will free them up to share with you?

e. What are some other ways you can get into their "world" (interests, lives, cares...)

16. List the things you can do together with each child. (Do one each day)

17. According to the above questions, what do you see you can do to improve as a parent?

Personally, I think there are 10 categories that the elements of raising children fall into. Define and describe the importance of these and how they'll help your family situation. (These are not in priority order).

Punishment -

Reward -

Biblical Instruction -

Love -

Relationship -

Example -

Biblical Roles of Husband & Wife -

Balance -

Consistency -

Family Schedule -

Which area of importance should you start working on today?