

It's Complicated - Part 2

Parenting

The top event things that make parenting complicated today:

1. The cost of childcare.
2. Modern day school is demanding on parents.
3. Everybody is an expert.
4. You can't leave your kids unattended.
5. We never unplug from work.
6. The anti-Christ/anti-Bible bias is ever-present.
7. The internet is a dangerous playground.

Luke 15:11-24 NIV Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. **12** The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. **13** "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. **14** After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. **15** So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. **16** He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

Three things every child needs:

1. Attention

Five areas of focused attention:

- a. Spend quality time with each kid.
- b. Participate in their hobbies and interests.
- c. Control their screen time.
- d. Monitor their relationships.
- e. Establish a family night.

2. Authority

- a. Establish healthy boundaries.

Resource Book: *Boundaries with Kids* by Cloud and Townsend.

- b. Follow through with consequences.

3. Affection

Luke 15:20 So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

- a. Show it.
- b. Speak it.

Luke 15: 17-19 “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.

Luke 15:21-24 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

- c. Repeat It