

Parenting a Hard-Hearted Child

I. How does my child respond to Truth?

- He hears the word, but does not understand the word, then experiences satanic influence in some way or another that snatches the Truth away, and consequently, the Hard-Hearted Child does not believe and/or is not born again.
 - Ignorance
 - Confusion (I Corinthians 2:14)
 - Unbelief (II Corinthians 4:4)
 - Have you ever discussed a Truth in amazing detail with all the Bible verses you know, only to have your child completely forget it all the very next day? And not only did they forget it, but they proclaim the opposite to be true? Have the simplest biblical ideas been unnecessarily confusing to your kids? Are you children still refusing to believe the gospel? If that describes your son or daughter, you may be parenting a Hard-Hearted Child.

II. Why does my child respond that way?

- Demonic Influence
 - Possession
 - Distraction
- Personal Apathy (II Thessalonians 2:12)

III. How do I respond like Jesus did?

- When it came to hard hearts Jesus did all of the following
 - He spoke Truth.
 - He engaged their minds by asking spiritual questions.
 - He showed them His power and modeled compassion.
 - He grieved for their hardness.
 - He prayed for them.
 - He met them in their need.
 - He asked questions to get them thinking about Truth.
 - He brought the worldly discussion back to the spiritual reality.
 - He reminded them of His power.
 - He made them rehearse what they already knew to be true.
 - He called them to act on their knowledge.
- We need to . . .
 - Trust and Pray
 - Cultivate with love and Sow Truth

IV. What verses should I be use with my children?**A. Motivation Training**

1. We should do what we do for God's Glory - I Corinthians 10:31
2. We should do what we do because we love - John 14:15
3. All we say and think must please God - Psalm 19:14
4. The reason we fight and argue - James 4:1-10

B. Gospel Training

1. All of I John (1:9, 3:18)
2. The Romans Road
 - a) Romans 1:20-21
 - b) Romans 3:23
 - c) Romans 5:8
 - d) Romans 6:23
 - e) Romans 10:9-10
 - f) Romans 10:13
 - g) Romans 11:36

C. Behavior Training

1. Having the mind of Christ - Philippians 2
2. Obedience - Ephesians 6:1-3
3. The Fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22-23
4. Beatitudes - Matthew 5:2-11
5. Spiritual Maturity - II Peter 3:1-11
6. How we think - Philippians 4
7. Bible Memory - Psalm 119:9, 11

D. Relationship Training

1. Loving each other - I Corinthians 13:1-13
2. Preferring others above ourselves - Romans 12:10; Philippians 2:3
3. Being kind and forgiving - Ephesians 4:23