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PARENTING: Wimps Need Not Apply

(How to raise super-confident kids in a super cynical world)

(SERIES: They Promised Me Chocolate; 07 of 10)
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“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior’s hands. How joyful is the man whose quiver is full of them! He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.” (Psa 127:3-5 NLT)

How to be Miserable Parenting

Expect that parenting will **just come naturally.**

Expect kids to **fix what’s broken in you.**

Assume kids want **your presence, not your presents.**

Believe having kids **won’t change us.**

How Parenting is Done

Successful parenting is done **heart to heart.**

*The greatest parenting motivation is **love.***

“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us.” (1 John 4:18-19 NIV)

“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? if you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to

your children, **how much more** will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:11-13 NIV)

Successful parenting is done **face to face.**

*The greatest parenting currency is **time.***

Successful parenting is done **word by word.**

“Fathers, don’t exasperate your children by coming down hard on them. Take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master.” (Eph 6:4 The Msg)

*The greatest parenting posture is **that of a teacher.***

Successful parenting is done **day by day.**

*The greatest parenting asset is **trust.***

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the door-frames of your houses and on your gates.

When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.” (Deuteronomy 6:4-12 NIV)