

CONVERSATION KILLERS DEUT. 6:4-9

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you **through** philosophy **and** vain deceit, **after** the tradition of men, **after** the rudiments of the world, and **not after** Christ.

When it comes to childrearing, there are several ideas that kill all conversation!

I. I just want my child to be happy!

This is the #1 conversation killer in the USA. It has become part of the air we breathe and water we drink. To address it seems to be unthinkable because this idea is so universal, accepted and practiced.

Basics:

A happy child is a good child.

A good child is a happy child.

Anything that makes my child happy is good.

Anything that makes my child unhappy is bad.

Proverbs 16:32 He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

Proverbs 13:4 The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Proverbs 20:4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

1 Timothy 4:7 But **refuse** profane and old wives' fables, **and exercise** (γύμναζε δὲ σεαυτὸν) **thyself** rather unto godliness. **1**

Timothy 4:8 For **bodily exercise** (ἡ γὰρ σωματικὴ γυμνασία πρὸς ὀλίγον) **profiteth little**: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

1 Corinthians 6:12 All things are lawful unto me, **but** all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, **but I will not be brought under the power of any.**

Anything that makes my child happy is good.

- Can't say no
- Can't discipline them
- Whatever they want, you buy them whether or not you can afford it.

Anything that makes my child unhappy is bad.

This can & will include everything and anything!

- Homework
- Teacher/anyone saying no

Usually the parent will see the problem but **not** understand the cause!

II. It's just **too** late!

Proverbs 19:18 Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: **Deuteronomy 6:5** And **thou** shalt love the LORD thy God with all **thine** heart, and with all **thy** soul, and with all **thy** might. **Deuteronomy 6:6** And these words, which I command thee

this day, shall be in thine heart: Deuteronomy 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

This can be true to a large extent if the child is 16~ old!

However, it's never too late for everything:

➤ **Never too late for parents to do right**

Deuteronomy 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Deuteronomy 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

Parenting isn't primarily about parenting, but about being a follower of Christ and it is never too late for that!

➤ **Never too late for parents to say "I was wrong"**

➤ **Never too late for parents to ask for forgiveness**

➤ **Never too late for parents to be open and humble**

➤ **Never too late for parents to engage in conversation**

➤ **Never too late for parents to implement the big picture**

➤ **Never too late for parents to truly love their children**

III. I just can't influence my children!

Deuteronomy 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Deuteronomy 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: Deuteronomy 6:7 **And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.**

Deuteronomy 11:18 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. Deuteronomy 11:19 **And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.**

Deuteronomy 11:20 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:

We influence and can only influence our children through the normal processes of life → day-to-day, mundane, every day....

➤ **Sitting / talking**

➤ **Eating**

➤ **Walking / driving**

➤ **Sleeping / ending of the day**

➤ **Arising / starting the day**