

Grace-based Families **Dr. Tim Kimmel**

Introduction: Plates, Saucers, Platter

Scripture: Colossians 3:18-21

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting to the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. Colossians 3:18-21

- “submit” = ducking so God can hit your husband.
- Jesus isn’t asking women to do something that He himself isn’t willing to do.
- Husbands: love.
- Love is the commitment of my will to your needs and best interests, regardless of the cost.
- Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ...
- Children – obey because this is right. Right = good, smart, wise, in your ultimate best interests.
- “Life is tough. It’s tougher if your stupid.” John Wayne
- Embitter: erathizo – to do something that causes them to resent you.

Set up “culture of grace” within a home.

Illustration: temperature within the room ...

Optional Scripture: Luke 2:39-52

Jesus grew up in a grace-based family.

I. Grace based families give the people they love the freedom to be different.

Illustration: One of the best ways to give children the freedom to be different is by allowing the differences between husband and wife to be freely expressed:

Different: weird, bizarre, strange, goofy, quirky

1. Often our children's differences embarrass us.
2. Often our children's difference annoy us.

Illustration: Colt's Mohawk

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

--Weaknesses are usually strengths pushed to an extreme.

Grace-based families allow children the freedom to be different.

II. Grace based families give the people they love the freedom to be vulnerable.

1. They don't have to wear masks.
2. They can verbalize their doubts and fears.
3. Their vulnerabilities can come to the surface without fear of them being attacked.

Illustration: 9th grade gym class ... hole in my sock.

4. We turn vulnerabilities into strengths when we voice approval and give them affections.

"But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." II Cor. 12:9

"Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." Col. 4:6

Grace-based families allow children the freedom to differant and vulnerable.

III. Grace based families give the people they love the freedom to be candid.

1. We need to give the people we love a respectful outlet for telling us what's on their heart—even if it's something we're not excited about hearing.
2. We are to keep them *under* control, not *control* them.
3. When we control: we deflate them, but when we keep them under control, we empower them.
4. They have the option to voice their disappointments in us.

"See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." Heb. 12:15

Illustration: Cody wanting me to sign him out for opening day of the Diamondbacks.

Grace-based families allow children the freedom to be different, vulnerable, and candid.

IV. Grace based families give the people they love the freedom to make mistakes.

Illustration: Getting ready for church.

If home is where life makes up its mind, then home must be a place where disappointments are tolerated, where hurts are endured, and where mistakes never mean the end of a relationship.

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 5:16

My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by him; for whom the Lord loves he chastens. Hebrews 12:5-6

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Closing: Gospel

Set up for Communion