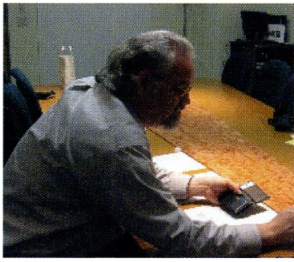


The English Page with Excerpts

Workplace Techniques Applied to Parenting: Craig Cox



Fathers need to apply to parenting the same techniques that they have learned to use in their workplace...

I ask young fathers today what a good model of a father is and they tell me that they don't know because their own post-war fathers who were too busy at work didn't set an

example for them...

Co-workers never discuss what kind of father one should be, so each father is basically groping along to the best of his knowledge...

Many men think that principles applied at work have nothing to do with parenting but that is not the case.

There is plenty which can be applied such as communication techniques between co-workers.

Also, the project oriented mindset of the workplace can be applied to parenting, too...

Child-rearing can be seen as an 18 year long-term project with its 'project management' tracking it from beginning to end.

You can have objectives and work toward them to be gained by the time the child reaches eighteen.

I tell people that their trip home from work is a good preparation time for parenting. Half way home, you need to switch your mind from work to home and begin to think about how you are going to relate to your family members.

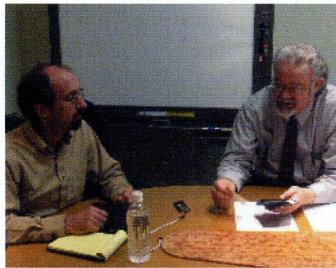
If we go to company conference meetings unprepared and just sit it out with no objective goals we get nothing accomplished.

Family time and parenting is much the same. If there is no planning, we can't expect to get much done.

For example, you may be reminded that you haven't taken a bath with your little child recently or you haven't tucked them into bed and so you plan to do it when you get home and relieve your wife of those responsibilities.

My measure of successful fathering is to compare it with my own up-bring and to see if I have been able to take even one positive step forward compared to my own father's parenting.

If I could pass this kind of vision on to my own son and he could do the same, I think that in several generations we can expect to have wonderful godly homes.



Trauma in the Media



If we are honest, we would have to admit that we are not much different from the ancient Romans who went to the arenas to watch gladiators fight to the death and Christians fed to the lions.

It's called "turning off the TV". No, I don't mean putting your head in the sand like the ostrich or becoming a recluse in the mountains. I firmly believe in being engaged with the culture as Jesus was.

My point is that we need to be SELECTIVE about what we view in the news.

Pictures and videos can brand your minds with images which are never forgotten and that's why we need to pick and choose what we are going to watch, even the news.

News in recent years has become sensational entertainment that feeds the baser appetite of our sinful nature.

Of course the problem is that, today, the arena isn't "out there" but is sitting in our living room...

What about the kids? They are going to see it sooner or later even after we have taken all precaution.

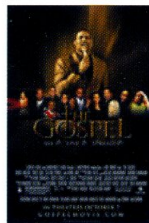
Here are some hints:

1. Know how much time your kids spend on watching TV.
2. Don't show news in which you anticipate traumatic content.
3. Watch the news together with your kids.
4. Ask your kids about what they have already heard or watched on the news.
5. Explain tragedy in light of God's Word- that evil exists but that God heals and comforts the hurting.

1 Peter 5:7, "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you"

Movie Review: The Gospel (2005)

Nominated for the Black Movie Award



This is the modern version of the well-known story that Jesus told of the prodigal son found in Luke 15:8 about a broken relationship and reconciliation between a father and a son.

The Father is a Pastor of a church and the son is the song leader who rebels and runs from home.

The story is about his long journey back to right relationship with God, his aging father, and the members of his church.

For Gospel music lovers the movie is a real treat full of lively and professionally recorded gospel music.

Though the movie is rated PG, it's not a "family movie" because its themes are geared more to the mature audience rather than young people or children.

The Disconnected Generation by Josh McDowell

Her kind words cut like a knife into my heart.

My wife Dottie was right. I always had deadlines to meet, telephone calls to answer, people I had to meet, and speaking trips to make.

But my child was going to be a child only so long and wasn't going to wait for me. This opportunity would soon pass.

I always told myself 'Next year...' but there was no guarantee that I would I have any more time then as I did now.

If I didn't change my priorities now, I knew what would happen...

Josh McDowell's 'The Disconnected Generation' is available in Japanese as well as the companion bilingual English-Japanese workbook designed for small group studies.

Pastor Naito's Q & A



Q: My son has been refusing to go to school off and on since junior high school and now he has quit going to high school altogether and just stays home cooped up in in his room.

My husband sometimes yells and gets angry with him insisting that he at least go to school or find a part time job but that causes him to withdraw further.

I get depressed just thinking about the future. What am I to do?

A: One reason for this withdrawing phenomenon in Japan is, unlike earlier generations, many families today have only one child or two at most and therefore, many children experience less interaction with siblings of their own age and do not learn to get along with others.

And on top of that, tech toys which kids play by themselves further erodes the amount of time spent with each other...

Your husband needs to back off from your son, be more calm, and think through the situation more soberly...

Seek for opportunities to connect with your son through things he enjoys doing...

If your son were to have an accident and was injured you would be committed to seeing him completely recover. In the same way be committed to him long term...

FFJ Radio-A New Start!

After over five years of airing Dr. Dobson's 90 Second Commentaries translated in Japanese, as of April this year, FFJ has now begun to produce its own original radio programming for the Japanese listener.

Koji Kaneko, one of FFJ's assistant directors and former professional radio announcer is the voice for our new program titled "Kaneko Koji's Family Talk" heard in Hokkaido and Okinawa.

Koji's anecdotal comments on family topics, often including his own experiences, has already been well received by our listeners. Please continue to pray for the radio ministry, that it will give hope to those who are struggling with family issues and that doors will open for us to air it in other prefectures.

A new book which is a compilation of Koji's Talks will be available soon.

The Importance of Forgetting by Tim Cole



Most of life involves trying to remember-- anything from Kanji and math equations to promises made to friends. And it's easy to remember negative things from our past, too...

...some of us carry such a pile of hurts from our marriage that we have lost all hope for ever seeing our relationship restored...

When we are betrayed or cheated in business, we can change to other business partners. If it's between friends, we can find new friends.

But when it's between spouses, it's an unbreakable bond and the best policy is to work toward reconciliation.

Part of forgiving is taking upon yourself that other person's hurt even as Christ took our sins upon himself on the cross.

But it also means not rehearsing it again and again but working toward forgetting it as God forgets our sins.

A Unique Christian Day Care for Children



Katsuko Takayama, a trained child care worker, started her own day care eleven years ago in Tsuzuki-ku, Yokohama, called the Roba no Ko Kurabu because there was no Christian day care service in her neighborhood for her daughter.

The club started meeting in a large park where there were plenty of trees and space to play as well as facilities for indoor activities.

Now for the last 11 years they have had 130 children take part in the club.

In this article different mothers and staff workers were interviewed and asked to share their experiences.

One talked about how she came to Christ, another about how the club's emphasis on parental involvement was more natural and better than the "drop-off" type day care, and still another about how she found just the right environment for her child who struggled with going to a local kindergarten.

Mrs. Takayama says her vision for the club's future is to reach out compassionately to the kind of people she sees on the nightly news-- abusive mothers and their children.