



Extreme Parenting
Time, Touch & Talk (Relationship)
Proverbs 3:3-4
By Pastor David Hillis, 21 October 2012

Relationship = Influence

- Our effectiveness as parents is entirely dependent upon our ability to maintain influence in our children's lives. When it matters the most, when they start making decisions that will affect their futures as they become young adults, our influence can still be there if we successfully made that transition.
- The degree of influence you have in your children's lives is directly proportional to the quality of relationship that you form with them over time.
- You *can't* have influence without relationship. You can *control* people sometimes without relationship, but you can't *influence* them.
- The stronger your relationship with your children, the more likely they are to embrace your values and beliefs. The weaker your relationship, the less likely they will embrace your values and beliefs.

- When it comes to building relationship, there are no shortcuts. The quality of the relationship depends on the quality and quantity of time that you invest in entering their world to build love and trust.
- In the Bible, we see in Genesis 16-42, story after story of how parents failed to build adequate relationships with their children - Abraham with Ismael, Esau with Rebekah, Jacob with all of his sons except Joseph and Benjamin.
- In 2 Samuel 13-18, we see the fall out of how a lack of relationship between father and son, between David and Absalom, led to a disastrous end.

Kids Need The 3 T's: Time, Touch, Talk

- Studies show that the average Dad spends 5-7 minutes of quality time with each child per week.
- Harry Chapin's song "Cat's in the Cradle" (copyright 1972) says it all...
- Kids today aged...
- What do your kids most lack from you? Meaningful talk time? Your touch? Or simply your time?