

Sept 22, 2019
Ted Cunningham

Week 4 I am not the perfect Parent – My Spouse and I Don't Always Agree, But we are a United Front

1. Ted said in his message today that “As our children get older, they come to see one parent as more lenient and one as more strict. They know who to ask and when to ask on each issue and request. How do we as parents determine who is the lenient parent and who is the strict parent, and come up with a strategy so that the kids get the same answer no matter which parent they ask?
2. Read Ephesians 5:31-32 The bond between a husband and wife is to be stronger than the bond between the parent and child. This means that the spouse comes before the child. What do the children learn from you modeling that priority? How is this accomplished?
3. Don't overlook your marriage as one of your greatest parent strategies. Read Matthew 19:6. Do your children see you as being united? If not, What do you need to do to correct that?
4. One of the best ways to teach your kids about the faithfulness of God is to be faithful to your spouse. In this day and age with all of the unfaithfulness, how do you remain faithful to your spouse?
5. Husbands – Are you treating your wives the way God wants you to treat them?
Wives - Are you treating your husbands the way God wants you to treat them? Why is the answer to this question important? What do you want your children to learn from your example by the way you treat your spouse?

6. One of the best ways to teach your children to honor God, others, and you is to honor each other. Read Genesis 1:27; 1 Peter 2:17; Romans 12:10-12. Image “Imago Dei” – Image of God How do we teach our children honor?
7. We have different backgrounds, personalities, and genders, but shared values. Ted gave several examples of undermining the other parent. How do we avoid statements that undermine the other parent?
8. Below is a list of strategies for Honoring your Ex-Spouse and Creating a United Front:
 - a. Take personal responsibility for your own attitudes and actions. Avoid every attempt to control and manipulate your ex-spouse.
 - b. Agree on logistics before the meet-up. Don't use your child as a messenger.
 - c. If you are the less-seen parent, avoid becoming the Disney Parent.
 - d. Be the parent. Avoid creating an alliance with your child against the other parent.
 - i. Read Romans 12:17-21. How can you be using these strategies now if you are in this situation?