

Revolutionary Parenting Discussion Questions

(for Tyndale's ChristianBookGuides.com Web site)

Chapter 1: A Crisis in American Parenting

1. How would you rate yourself as a parent? In what areas are you most confident? In what areas do you struggle most?
2. If you could ask one question of those parents whose children turned out to be Revolutionaries as adults, what would it be?

Chapter 2: Conditions for Revolutionary Success

1. Think about the relationship you have with each of your children. What are three things you can commit to do during the next thirty days that will improve your relationship with them?
2. Consider the lessons your children learn from watching you. In what three ways might you change your behavior during the next thirty days to have a more positive and biblical influence on the lives of your children?

Chapter 3: Revolutionary Parents Put First Things First

1. Examine your real priorities in life—not those to which you give lip service, but those demonstrated by your calendar, your checkbook, and your emotions. What may be standing in the way of making your children a top priority in your life?
2. How comfortable is your family spending time together, several times a week, exploring God's Word, sharing openly during prayer sessions, and engaging in conversations that relate your faith principles to your critical life choices? What could you introduce into your family's dynamics to make faith a more natural centerpiece of such discussions and activities?
3. If your children were asked to honestly assess your personal commitment to growing deeper in your faith, what kind of rating would they give? How satisfied are you with your personal investment in growing spiritually? What might you do to foster a more fulfilling spiritual journey?

Chapter 4: Revolutionary Planning for Spiritual Champions

1. You will get tired, distracted, and frustrated. What steps can you take to be sure that when you get weak, you don't let down your guard and cause your children to suffer the consequences?

2. You and your spouse must be an effective parenting team. What would improve your teamwork? If you are a single parent, who constitutes your team, and what steps can you take to improve the joint impact you have?
3. Teachers and coaches rarely recognize the unique needs of each child. What can you do to alert them to the developmental pace and nuances of your child?
4. Make a list of the character traits described in the Bible. What exercises and applications will enable you to help your child embody those characteristics?
5. How might you work more effectively with your children's ministry leaders at church?

Chapter 5: The Rules of Revolutionary Engagement

1. Track the criticisms, limits, rewards, and punishments you meted out in the past week. How consistent have you been in dispensing household justice?
2. What are some safeguards you place around your children when they are away from you (for instance, asking them to check in with you regularly by cell phone or talking with their friends' parents before allowing your kids to visit that home)? Is there anything else you'd like to begin doing?
3. Have you ever discussed the moral underpinning of a movie or TV show with your kids? If so, what was the result? If not, what do you think the benefits of engaging in such a discussion might be?

Chapter 6: How Revolutionary Parents Behave

1. Have your kids ever challenged you about a decision you made that affected them? If so, how well did you handle their questions? How might you better prepare yourself for future confrontations?
2. Look at your schedule for the past month. How many times did you block out time for a family experience? Are you satisfied with the family times you have? If not, how could you make them a higher priority or more meaningful?
3. Have you ever established a rule for your kids, only to fail at following through on the promised consequences? If so, what was the result?
4. What is one step you could take to more firmly establish yourself as your child's spiritual mentor?

Chapter 7: A Revolutionary Faith

1. How do your kids see you practicing and processing your own faith? If they don't see you at Bible study or prayer, why is that? What would be the benefits of living out your faith before their eyes?

2. What critical principles from Scripture do you want your children to adopt?. How might you study the Bible together so they can learn those principles?
3. In what other ways might you encourage your kids to develop their own faith?
4. Why is praying for the salvation and spiritual maturity of your children so important? Discuss how you might make such prayers a more regular part of your day.

Chapter 8: Training Up Spiritual Champions

1. How often do you talk with your children to be sure they don't feel pressured by a packed schedule? What are some other ways you can protect your kids from too many obligations?
2. Have you ever considered the importance of teaching your children to respect other faiths? If so, can you give an example of how you or another parent has done this?
3. What faith principles would you say are critical for your children to learn? How could you teach and reinforce them?

Chapter 9: The Bible's Revolutionary Parenting Rules

1. If you are married, how deliberate are you and your spouse about talking about your parenting? If you are single, with whom might you be able to discuss your concerns and frustrations? If you don't set aside time to talk about your parenting goals, what might be some of the benefits of doing so?
2. What are some ways you might implement safeguards and fallback strategies to protect your kids in areas where they might be at risk?
3. What might you do to make your home a compelling sanctuary for your kids? If you haven't already done so, how might you solicit your kids' ideas on making this happen?
4. As you read about the Bible's guidelines on effective parenting, what jumped out at you? Why? How might you implement that principle in your own parenting?

Chapter 10: How Studying Revolutionary Parenting Changed Me

1. What one lesson from the Revolutionary Parents described in this book do you most want to incorporate in your own life?
2. Has any aspect of your parenting (or the way you view your parenting role) changed as a result of reading this book?