



WHAT EVERY KID NEEDS

**Leveraging every moment with your kids to
prepare them for life beyond your home**




- Married to Casey for 12 and a half years.
- Father to Journey (10) and Jett (7).
- Have ministered to teenagers for 13 years.



936

Every parent has 936 weeks of influence from the time their child is born until they graduate.



PSALM 90:12 - So
teach us to number
our days that we may
get a heart of
wisdom.





PROVERBS 22:6: Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.



ELEMENTARY AGE

Tend to ask "DO I" questions

- Do I have your attention?
- Do I have what it takes?
- Do I have any friends

As they age, questions tend to shift into more philosophical and relational



MIDDLE SCHOOL AGE

Tend to ask questions like:

- Who do I like?
- Who am I?
- Where do I belong?



HIGH SCHOOL AGE

Questions shift from concrete to abstract.

- Why should I believe?
- How can I matter?
- What will I do?



How you *respond* to
your kid's core
questions will help
shape and *define*
their identity.



**NO ONE HAS THE POTENTIAL
TO INFLUENCE KIDS LIKE
THEIR PARENTS.**

**A PARENT IS NOT THE ONLY
INFLUENCE A KID NEEDS!**



- SALVATION
- PERSONAL SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES
- BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING
- WILLINGNESS TO SHARE THEIR FAITH
- A NEED FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

- Love/Time = Worth
- Keep Showing Up
- 1 Corinthians:4-7 – “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

EVERY KID NEEDS: WORDS

WHAT EVERY KID NEEDS



- The average teenager hears one word of affirmation for every seven words of criticism
- Words are powerful!
- Words/Time = Direction

EVERY KID NEEDS: **STORIES**

WHAT EVERY KID NEEDS

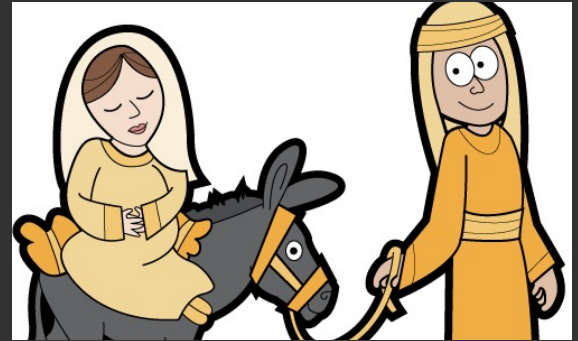


- We're wired to learn from stories (not facts)
- Stories/Time = Perspective

If you had to model your family after one family from the Bible, who would it be?

EVERY KID NEEDS: **STORIES**

WHAT EVERY KID NEEDS





- Work/Time = Perspective
- Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ to do good works
- If we never give kids something significant to do, they will never feel significant.

EVERY KID NEEDS: FUN

WHAT EVERY KID NEEDS



- Fun/Time = Connection
- Proverbs 17:22: *A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.*
- Nehemiah 8:10: *“Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don’t be dejected and sad, for the joy of the LORD is your strength!”*
- Fun breaks down walls
- Fun/Time = Authenticates Forgiveness
- HOMEWORK: Schedule something fun

- We are looking for where we fit in and where we can connect and be accepted!
- If you have a teenager:
 - They care more about what their friends think than what you think
 - They care more about what other adults think than what you think
 - They care more about what you think than anyone else.
- Tribes/Time = Belonging
- Connect every kid to more than one adult



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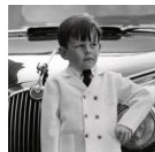
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FROM WALT MUELLER

Kids Who Have Too Much. . .



If we relentlessly pursue
"the American Dream"
and the desire to pass the
material benefits of the
good life on to our kids,
bad things happen. . .

learn more on today's 1-minute Youth Culture
Today podcast. . .

YOUTH CULTURE NEWS

- [The 'Trauma' Of The Pandemic And How Reopening Is Driving Adolescent Anxiety, Suicide](#)
- [Children's Books Written To Support Transgender And Nonbinary Youth](#)
- [What Teens Need From Parents: A Counselor's Perspective](#)
- [Nickelodeon Casts First Openly Trans Teen In Live-Action Show](#)
- [BTS Tops Billboard Charts \(Again\), Breaks World](#)

RESOURCES



Episode 131: "Asking
Hard Questions" with
Rebecca McLaughlin
Category: Youth Culture
Matters: A CPYU Podcast



3(D) Review:
"Transparent Soul" by
Willow Smith ft. Travis
Barker



THE FEELING WHEEL



Questions

— and —

Answers

An illustration featuring a young child on the left and two adults on the right. The child, with blonde hair, is wearing a green shirt, green shorts, and orange sneakers, and is carrying a large orange backpack. The two adults, a man and a woman, are depicted in a stylized, almost cartoonish manner. The man, wearing glasses and a light blue shirt, is holding a yellow telescope. The woman, with blonde hair and wearing a green shirt and brown pants, is holding a black camera. They are all set against a background of a blue sky and a green ground. The text 'TABLE TALK' is written in large, bold, black letters on a green rectangular background to the left of the adults.

TABLE TALK

What are your greatest joys as a parent?
What are your greatest struggles as a parent?