



Intentional Parenting & Peopling: *Knowing Your Audience*

Background: *Faith & Family...When living on the earth, Jesus was really good at knowing His audience. He made decisions based on his observations of the person/people. He decided to make some people wait for an answer so they had to problem solve on their own. He showed some people a miracle right away because they needed that at that moment. He worked with some people individually, some as a group. He asked his disciples to some things they didn't understand, so they could discover his meaning through hard work. He knew how to help each person best because he knew each person deeply and used their skills to develop their weaknesses. We can follow His example in our families and out in the world. We want our kids to be people who can take time to think before speaking. People who take time to observe and understand who they are talking to before they speak.*

- 1) Think of an example where Jesus shared His message in 2 different ways. Why would He have done this?
- 2) Think of a time you wanted to get a message to your kids. Did you share it with all the kids the same way? Did everyone get it?
- 3) How about consequences? Do the same consequences (rewards and punishment) work with all your kids, or do you have to do it differently for each child? (*Sometimes we get stuck in the "fair" part of parenting.*)
- 4) This doesn't just work for kids. Think about how your spouse feels seen and loved. It may not be the same way you prefer.
- 5) What does this look like out in the world? Especially with people we disagree with? How can we listen and observe better, so we can talk to people in a way they will want to listen and communicate?

Action Steps:

- Keep talking about, modeling, and noticing your family word(s).
- Observe this week - what does each kid really respond well to? Direct face-to-face talk? Side-by-side talk? Learning through problem solving?
- Do something small for each family member this week - something that would mean a lot to him/her.



Individualized Parenting Plan

Name of Child	Talking Style (direct vs. side)	Positive Consequence Style	Negative Consequence Style

THE **5** LOVE LANGUAGES FOR KIDS



compliment them - express appreciation - give a card - send a text - tell them you love them - tell them you're proud - actively listen - slip a note in their lunchbox or under their pillow - notice their efforts and acknowledge in front of others



help them clean their room - make them meals - help them get out the door on time - help with their homework - bring them a drink of water - help little ones bathe - help them clean up toys - organize their closet - tuck them in at night



comb their hair - scratch their back - rub their feet - cuddle and read a story - tickle - pat them on the back - sit near them - welcome kisses & hugs - group hugs - high fives - this little piggy-type games - hold hands - manicures & pedicures








make their favorite treat - give a thoughtful gift on an ordinary day - plan presents that fit their interests - mail a package when you're away - give a flower or pretty rock - do a treasure hunt - give a special bracelet - appreciate their gifts



undivided attention - chores together - make a treat - ask about their day - eye contact - play with them - do a craft - eat together - go on a date - camp out - board games - bike ride - bedtime stories - read/do hobbies side by side - laugh lots

from the book "The 5 Love Languages of Children" by Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell. Design by Kelsey Walker @kels_doodles.

HOW TO SPEAK YOUR SPOUSE'S LOVE LANGUAGE

WHICH LOVE LANGUAGE?	HOW TO COMMUNICATE	ACTIONS TO TAKE	THINGS TO AVOID
 WORDS OF AFFIRMATION	Encourage, affirm, appreciate, empathize. Listen actively.	Send an unexpected note, text, or card. Encourage genuinely and often.	Non-constructive criticism, not recognizing or appreciating effort.
 PHYSICAL TOUCH	Non-verbal - use body language and touch to emphasize love.	Hug, kiss, hold hands, show physical affection regularly. Make intimacy a thoughtful priority.	Physical neglect, long stints without intimacy, receiving affection coldly.
 RECEIVING GIFTS	Thoughtfulness, make your spouse a priority, speak purposefully.	Give thoughtful gifts and gestures. Small things matter in a big way. Express gratitude when receiving a gift.	Forgetting special occasions, unenthusiastic gift receiving.
 QUALITY TIME	Uninterrupted and focused conversations. One-on-one time is critical.	Create special moments together, take walks and do small things with your spouse. Weekend getaways are huge.	Distractions when spending time together. Long stints without one-on-one time.
 ACTS OF SERVICE	Use action phrases like "I'll help...". They want to know you're with them, partnered with them.	Do chores together or make them breakfast in bed. Go out of your way to help alleviate their daily workload.	Making the requests of others a higher priority, lacking follow-through on tasks big and small.