

△ | NEW MESSAGE SERIES

Embrace the Breaking

Jim Valvano

“... there are three things we all should do every day. Number one is laugh. You should laugh every day. Number two is think. You should spend some time in thought. Number three is you should have your emotions moved to tears.... If you laugh, you think and you cry, that’s a full day. That’s a heck of a day...”

Paul Tripp

“... gospel driven, God-honoring, fruit producing parenting doesn’t begin with theology or strategy. It begins with confession. What we need to confess is that parenting is impossible.”

What God calls you to in parenting is utterly impossible to do in and of yourself. You and I do not have inside of us the ingredients that are necessary to be God's tool for the forming of a human soul.

From the Bible you can find good parents that raise good children, bad parents that raise bad children, good parents that raise bad children, and bad parents that raise good children.

To the degree that you fail to confess your struggle, is the same degree you will be intolerant of the struggle of your children.

Nobody gives grace better than somebody who is convinced they are desperately in need of it themselves.

Begin with confession: Everything my children need, I need. All of their struggles are my struggles.

“Train your child up in the way he should go...”

– Proverbs 22:6.

**“... do not provoke your children to anger,
but bring them up in the discipline and
instruction of the Lord.”**

– Ephesians 6:4

“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise...”

– Deuteronomy 6:4-9

“Hear, my son, your father’s instruction, and do not forsake your mother’s teaching...”

– Proverbs 6:20

In the Bible when it comes to a child's relationship with parents, there is one key word that comes up over and over again:

Honor.

4 WAYS TO HONOR YOUR PARENTS:

- 1. In your culture find the appropriate symbols by which you show them respect.**
- 2. Don't underestimate your parent's need to see themselves reproduced in you.**
- 3. Don't stereotype them, let them change.**
- 4. Be liberated from them.**

Jesus was broken on the cross in order to present us to His Father as sons and daughters. And when you embrace the brokenness in your life, that is when you most look like a child of God.