

Parent Trap: The Achievement Trap

Yancey Arrington

September 20, 2009

1. What messages did you receive from your parents? Did those messages bless or curse you? What messages are your kids receiving from you?
2. Do your kids feel that your love and acceptance of them are dependent on their achievement? Have you seen any evidence of legalism (perfectionism) or rebellion in your kids – or in yourself?
3. Read Romans 5:8. Why does it matter that God loves those who cannot achieve by achieving for them? Why is understanding this important?
4. Read Matthew 11:29-30. How have you experienced the rest in trusting Jesus and his unconditional love?
5. When do you tell your kids that you love them? Is this statement generally connected to their performance?
6. Why do you love your kids? Why do your kids think that you love them?
7. How can you reaffirm your love for them even when they fail? Why is this a good opportunity to share the gospel?
8. How can you demonstrate to your children that you are a sinner saved by grace?
9. Are you loving your kids as God in Christ has loved you? What does this look like in your family?
10. Does your parenting give your kids the best possible opportunity to understand the gospel? How do you need to shift in order to make this clearer to your kids?