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Q&A Forum - Review

Grandson's Angry Comments

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Fellow Q&Aers,

Today we welcome Jackie, Bill, Ken and Jack to our list.

It has been quiet as I was on a mini vacation a couple of weeks ago and came back and promptly caught a bad cold. We are back in the running.

Rose has re-started "The Lifeline Connection" on Tuesday evenings at Sterling House, a support group for victims of domestic violence. You can contact her at rmoore@personalgrowthconcepts.com if you would like additional information, or to make a referral.

Now to our question.....

Q: My grandson, 9, is now into saying things like "I hate you, who cares?" and other charming statements of what??? I don't know. Is this anger or a phase 9 year old boys go through? How do I respond to his statements?

A: My quick thoughts are that, as a 9 year old boy, he is probably just mouthing off, testing his limits, attempting to manipulate and otherwise "test out his world." He is probably angry about something when he talks this way - I think it would be important to find out what he is angry or frustrated about and to validate his feelings. Also, you could respond to his question, "who cares?" with a brief statement, "I care." You may also want to ask his parents if he is like this often (maybe a sign of much frustration and anger) or may be a phase he is working through. If I remember well from my textbook days, he is probably going through the Oedipal phase of loving mom, having a lot of conflicted feelings and being angry at and protective of her at the same time. Since you are the grandmother and are experiencing some difficulty with this, I would like to ask you what was going on in your life at age 9? Often, we get stuck with our kids at the same age we were stuck in our lives -- interesting isn't it? Finally, look to see if it is a pattern and getting worse. If so, getting him assessed by a mental health professional experienced in dealing with this age bracket may be in order. I hope this has helped. Stay in touch. Peace, John

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Quote: "Plans are only good intentions unless they immediately degenerate into hard work."-- Peter F. Drucker

Bonus 1: WHY GOD CREATED CHILDREN

To those of us who have children in our lives, whether they are our own, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or students...here is something to make you chuckle.

Whenever your children are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to His own children.

After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve. And the first thing he said was "DON'T!"

"Don't what?" Adam replied.

"Don't eat the forbidden fruit," God said.

"Forbidden fruit? We have forbidden fruit? Hey Eve...we have forbidden fruit!!!!!"

"No Way!"

"Yes way!"

"Do NOT eat the fruit!" said God.

"Why?"

"Because I am your Father and I said so!" God replied, wondering why He hadn't stopped creation after making the elephants.

A few minutes later, God saw His children having an apple break and He was ticked!

"Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?" God asked.

"Uh huh," Adam replied.

"Then why did you?" said the Father.

"I don't know," said Eve.

"She started it!" Adam said

"Did not!"

"Did too!"

"DID NOT!"

Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own. Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed.

BUT THERE IS REASSURANCE IN THE STORY!

If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give children wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself. If God had trouble raising children, what makes you think it would be a piece of cake for you?

Bonus 2:

1. You spend the first two years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next sixteen telling them to sit down and shut up.
2. Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your own children.
3. Mothers of teens now know why some animals eat their young.
4. Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.
5. The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children more awful than your own.
6. We child proofed our homes, but they are still getting in.

ADVICE FOR THE DAY: Be nice to your kids. They will choose your nursing home.

AND FINALLY: IF YOU HAVE A LOT OF TENSION AND YOU GET A HEADACHE, DO WHAT IT SAYS ON THE ASPIRIN BOTTLE: "TAKE TWO ASPIRIN" AND "KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN"

bonus #3 **Subject: God's Diet Plan**

God populated the Earth with broccoli and cauliflower and spinach and green and yellow vegetables of all kinds, that Man and Woman would live long.

And Satan created Burger King. And Burger King brought forth the 99-cent double cheeseburger. And Satan said unto Man, "You want fries with that?"

And Man said, "Supersize them". And Man gained pounds.

And God created the healthful yogurt, that Woman might keep the figure that Man found so fair.

And Satan froze the yogurt, and he brought forth chocolate, nuts, and brightly colored sprinkle candy to put on the yogurt. And woman gained pounds.

And God said, "Try My crispy fresh salad.".

And forthwith Satan brought forth creamy dressings, bacon bits and shredded cheese. And there was ice cream for dessert. And woman gained pounds.

And God said, "I have sent you heart-healthy vegetables and olive oil in which to cook them."

And Satan brought forth chicken-fried steak from Cracker Barrel so big it needed its own platter. And Man gained pounds, and his bad cholesterol went through the roof.

And God brought forth running shoes, and Man resolved to lose those extra pounds.

And Satan brought forth cable TV with remote control so Man would not have to toil, to flip from ESPN to ESPN2. And Man gained pounds.

And God saith unto Satan, "You're running up the score, Devil". And God set forth the potato, a vegetable naturally low in fat and brimming with nutrition.

And Satan peeled off the healthful skin, and sliced the starchy center into chips and fried them in deep beef fat. And he brought forth sour cream dip also. And Man clutched his remote control and ate the chips and dip. And Satan saw, and said, "It is good". And Man went into Cardiac Arrest.

And God sighed and created Triple Bypass Surgery.

And forthwith Satan created HMOs..... ~~~

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We wish you peace in who you are and in all that you do!

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