



# LOVE



Pastor Shawn

September 22, 2024

*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*  
John 10:10

**Current Reality:** 2010-2020 Childhood / Teen Depression up 152%, Anxiety is up 134%  
Loneliness is up, Fear is up, Mental Health Diagnoses (35-50%), Hope is down.

*"Live life with a sense of responsibility, not as those who don't know the meaning of life, but as those who do."*  
Ephesians 5:15

What is the goal of childhood?                      What is the goal of parenting?  
Preparation for: A relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.    A relationship with \_\_\_\_\_

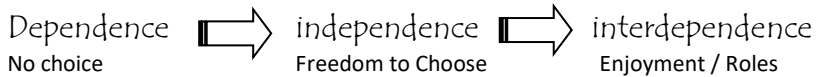
The role of the parent to guide and direction them through discipline.  
*"Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it."*  
*"Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far away."*  
Proverbs 22:6,15

Discipline / Disciple = To teach the proper way, how to behave.  
Why: In the heart of a child is foolishness / selfishness

Authoritarian	⇔	<u>Authoritative</u>	⇐	Permissive
Controlling		Warmth / Loved		Happy Goal
Disconnected		Guiding / Directing		Kids as Friends
Demanding		Disciplining		Feeling Focused
Strict		Sets Limits		Accommodate

*"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' - which is the first commandment with a promise - 'that is may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.' Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."*  
Ephesians 6:1-4

In the early years a parent controls 3 key relationships: Family, Friends, God.



LIFE in community = Interdependence

**Church needs** to be a supportive community – engaging childhood & adolescent  
Less virtual input, more social interaction – unsupervised play together  
Prayer, encouragement, and practical help

**Parent need** to embrace their role as those who will develop adult behavior in their kids.  
Depend less on "experts" on their children  
Focus on character development, less validation & accommodation  
Find safe community to allow unsupervised & risk-taking play  
Less protective on real world play, more protective on virtual world play