

May 12, 2024

**Speaker:** Tim McCardel

**Message Series:** The Way Up Is Down

**Today's Message:** Parenting AT IT's Best

### **1. Meeting Their Need For Acceptance**

1 Thessalonians 2:7, 8, 11, 12

#### **1) I Accept You**

**Real Listening Says:** "I respect you and I value what you're thinking." James 1:19

#### **2) I Understand You**

#### **Three Essentials:**

- 1) **Time** - not only priority but extended time, not to be a duty but a delight.
- 2) **Talk** - verbally expressing to my child their value to me.
- 3) **Talent** - not trying to impress with our strengths but how we value theirs.

Colossians 1:28, 29

#### **Two Warnings:**

- 1) **Affection** will not be received if they're not convinced of my acceptance.
- 2) If my child hears my affirmation without hearing true acceptance they will feel the need to perform to get my favor.

**Reality:** Every child runs to those who cheer loudest for them.

### **2. Meeting Their Need for Affection**

1 Corinthians 13:3-7

**HUGE:** Rules Without Relationship Lead To Rebellion

### **3. Meeting Their Need For Affirmation**

Mark 1:11

**CAUTION:** "Don't look at me in that tone of eye."

**Remember:** "Children run to those who cheer for them."

#### **Special Words:**

- 1) Praise God for them, in front of them, for special gifts, qualities and passions God gave them.
- 2) Make sure your eyes and words are locking onto them as they do the same to you.
- 3) Give them permission-as they mature-to accept or reject my God: When I give them options-I give them the opportunity to embrace God truly.

### **4. Children Need Us To Address The Mess**

1 Samuel 3:13

1) We Are Called To Move Toward The Mess, NOT IGNORING IT

2) **Make The Deliberate Choice:** To See Mess As An Opportunity FOR God's Grace

⇒ **Joseph in Slavery:**

Genesis 39:3, 21, 23

Genesis 50:19, 20

Genesis 3:6-10, 21

3) When We Address The Mess We Are Blessed

John 16:33