

Styles of Parenting

Authoritarian

- Making all decisions for your child (absolutely sure they know best)
- Often using physical punishment (rely on the rod)
- Ownership of their children
- Leads to passiveness in children
- Children lack drive, creativity and initiative
- Children have battered self-image
- Parents have to be in control
- Leads to rebellion

Permissive

- Want to be their child's best friend
- Operates on guilt, sometimes because not spending time with kids
- The children, not God, are the center of the universe
- Child is in control of the family
- Eager to snowplow the roads of life for their children
- Hovering parents can kill a child's self-esteem
- Leads to rebellion

Authoritative

- Healthy authority over children
- Consistent parenting styles
- Single parents – be what you are (mom or dad, not both)
- Understanding God owns your children, not you
- Loving your children, yet being firm in discipline
- Being proactive, not reactive to your children's behaviors

Proverbs 13:24 – “He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.” (It doesn't say spare the rod, spoil the child)

Ephesians 6:1-4 – 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 it 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.