

3-5-15 Follow up Discipline #3

How did it go? Have you tried something new?

Class member: I have 4 year old twins and Sacrament meeting is not great. I feel like pulling my hair out. We were the 2nd row from the front with Elder Perry broadcast. I got both of them and sat them down and told them that they have to be super reverent today. 1 ½ hours went by and they were quiet. At the end I could see Elder Perry watching my little boy and you could tell he was getting restless. Elder Perry came over and shook my son's little hand and told him how reverent he has been. I thanked him for coming over. As a Mom I was going...yeah it worked. Then I said to my husband...next week won't be this good. I told them they did a great job.

Tracy used to do superstars for her little ones. She would have a special Sunday treat if they were really good in church. They only have to miss it about once.

Class member: I put both of my kids in the same boat. One hit one and the other hit the other. They both came in crying. I looked at both of them. You both did something wrong. The 6 year old was to read a book to the 4 year old. They both solved it in a happy way together.

How comfortable did you feel about using it?

Class member: I had confidence that what you taught would work. The outcome was great.

Putting them in the same boat takes them out of competition.

Class member: I have 3 older girls. I tried the you all have a problem go into that room and work it out. They came out a few minutes later and had it worked out on their own.

Just watch that one so the older one doesn't dominate. They are probably fine.

Class member: I noticed that when I don't have energy everything goes out the window. I don't have the energy to think about what to do so I yell and do the easiest thing. I found the hour of power gave me more power. We did quiet time instead of nap time. Getting up early and go to bed early has helped my energy a lot.

We aren't going to get it all right. It takes years. Change percentages.

Class member: I tried to work on natural consequences. My oldest was 16 months when my twins were born. My oldest shoved something in his brothers ear. My husband stayed home with our son. He stayed calm. He talked to him about it. We told him he wasn't in trouble. We told him he had to pay the emergency room visit. It was an accident, but it still happened. It's killing me to take his money. He is 13 yrs old.

Fabulous consequence. It's probably the best lesson he will ever learn. You may just secretly put it back in an account for him. This is where our soft hearts have us back out. Don't rehash what caused the problem. I'm proud of you. Don't feel guilty about it.

Class member: My sister's in-laws said something happened like that. They had to pay her something after being rude to her. She bought a new dress and wore it all the time. Look Mom is going to have something that makes her feel better.

You guys are a little nervous about natural consequences.

Class member: If they didn't do their homework it's not done? Where is the fine line between needing to teach them what they need to do and they need the natural consequence. Am I doing too much of trying to help them out?

Class member: I think you have to listen to the spirit. Sometimes kids need to be rescued because their buckets are empty.

Class member: I have a son that never does homework. His teachers are the ones bailing him out. We sent an email as a couple to his teacher and said we are trying to teach our son if he doesn't turn in his homework he doesn't get 3 weeks more to turn in him homework. It's setting the boundary and sticking to it. We have to realize the hard stuff.

Class member: In my opinion it's ok to let them learn natural consequences as long as it doesn't interfere with their safety. My son was dilly dallying and was late in riding his skateboard to school. He made it there barely. It wasn't jeopardizing his safety.

Class member: You need to be available to them and not do it for them, but ask them to help out.

Is it a habit? When a negative behavior becomes a habit then you need to back out and let the consequences take over. There are times when all of us need help. There are times I need my kids to 'rescue' me in helping with a Relief Society dinner. If every time

I make my boys do it for me that is when it is wrong. When you 'always' have to lecture, remind, etc....that's when you let the natural consequences happen. They become punishment if you say too much. It's a harsh punishment.

Class member: I was raised really well that way. My parents did natural consequences well. If I did something wrong I wasn't thinking my mom and dad are going to kill me. I was thinking I'm going to have to pay for this. I took the responsibility on myself. It wasn't very long and I was the difference between my friends and I were raised.

Class member: My son is 7 and what he does will affect the sister going to school if he dilly-dally's making lunch. They ride their bikes. My son has heart disease and I want him and her to stay together. I think he could ride there, but do I let him go alone?

You have charge of yourself. If it was me I would say...This car is leaving at 8:05am. Here is your dilemma...You think there is one right answer. You want me to tell you the one right answer. There isn't one right answer. Children and situations are different. These are practices. We are talking about ideas for practices. There isn't 'A' right solution that will solve the problem forever. What may work tomorrow may not work next week. This is a process. What are we teaching them? To be responsible....self-discipline.

Another possibility...if it was me I might try...When it was time to leave on time I would say "I love you let me walk you to the door." She leaves. He is still in the house. If I'm concerned about his health. Johnny you missed the taxi. I feel so bad. You have to be on their side. Now it's time for you to go to school you get to have school in your bedroom today. You can come out at 3pm. I'll see you at 3. Then during the day they will play for an hour and then want to come out. You remind them to be in their room. I'm sorry you didn't pack your lunch. I'll see you at 3pm. Sometimes you just need to create an experience that is a little less comfortable so going and doing what they need to do looks better.

As soon as you get revenge in it that's punishment.

Class member: I had a son that could never get it together. He was very yellow. One day I just thought to write everything down for him. Just having it on the table and erasing it when he is done. He just gets tired of doing it.

At 7 he is old enough to discuss it. 'We have this problem in the morning. I will be on time. I know you will be, but what would you like to do? What about making your lunch tonight? Let them know what would happen...spending the day in their room 'at school'.

Do it in the evening and help them prepare...."If you don't make the time you get to have school in your room 8am-3pm." Don't go through all the 'if's'.

Class member: My husband is very strict on going to school, I could just tell my kids you will pay the consequences and have the tardy slip and walk into class late.

You always do better. This turns from a consequence to a natural consequence when they have to deal with the school.

Class member: My son didn't have the health issues. If you don't eat your food. You get it for breakfast. If you miss the bus you stay home work for me. After that there wasn't an issue.

We get the idea that children become responsible when they are older. They are only more responsible if you teach them to be more responsible.

There is a brilliant young lady that graduated from BSU with a degree in Engineering and got her first job. She is a Materials Engineer. She is responsible for fixing glitches in the manufacturing line. She tests the materials in the products. That's her job. This is her first job out of college. She has been in this job for 3 months. She is making tons of money. She is on salary. She told us about something she had to do. Something went wrong and someone else went in to fix it. She was so angry. If they are going to have someone else come in and redo what I just did then I am wasting my time there. She was in charge of resolving a problem. The boss came to check up and she said if they were going to check up on me why am I there. I'm not going to be there at 8am in the morning. If I'm half an hour late what difference does it make.

When our kids that have been raised with entitlement are very offended when they aren't treated like the same people that have been there for year. How does that attitude relate to your kids? Where is the connection? How do we as parents cure this discrepancy?

Class member: Sometimes it's easier to side with our kids when they have a hard consequence instead of feeling bad for them.

Class member: I think that's why Heavenly Father sent us to families.

Class member: I think it relates back to being resilient.

Sometimes when we are raising kids that go through college and get good grades, sometimes if we don't teach them humility there are problems. We need to teach them to be team players.

Class member: I think a huge part of that is example of how we are with our spouse and friends. What is the kid learning when their friend's parents bail them out.

Class member: I was that kid. I have a good self esteem. I got my 4 year degree in 2 years. They told me when to be there and when to go home and when to have lunch. I got fired from my first college graduate job. It was really humbling. I thought why would you fire me? It was the best thing that ever happened to me. I don't think my parents could have taught me. It was like a settling job. The others that stayed on were team players. It taught me to be a better team player not just in it for me.

If you feel like you haven't taught them everything marriage and parenting will teach them a lot even after they leave your home.