

**NEW!**

# FAMILY HACKS



#MC3FAMILYHACKS



Discussion  
Gu'ide

**“HACKING PARENTING (#1)”**

05/08/16

## THE POINT:

### TRY THIS PARENTING HACK: DISCIPLINE TO SHOW YOUR LOVE

#### Discussion Generators

PLEASE share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group!

→ God is ALWAYS working! Sometimes we just need to keep our "antennae up", to be looking for it. Go around your group and share your God Moments of how you have seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another, over the past few weeks.

- What has stood out to you so far from the *Family Hacks* Point series?
- Most of us have "that story" of when we got in trouble big-time as a kid! Share your "naughty kid" moment with the group. How were you disciplined because of it?
- Our culture has turned away from [child] discipline as a whole, and for *some* good reasons. What are some of the reasons that discipline has gotten a bad reputation and/or that parents hesitate to discipline?
- Even though it *has* been messed up over the years, how should Proverbs 13:24 change our perspective on the need to discipline? What is the key word in that verse\*? [love!]
- The word "careful" in Proverbs 13:24, means that we have to be intentional and consistent in discipline. Why do you think this is so hard?  
\*someone who was in the Point may need to explain this

→Read Ephesians 4:26-27. Applying this to discipline, Paul tells us not to discipline in anger. Do you have, or have you seen, any tips for the group on how to avoid disciplining in anger?

[**mc3Student**: *What tips do you have to avoid reacting in anger?*]

→Proverbs 23:13-14 teaches that that discipline needs to “sting” [Note: this is NOT excusing abuse]. How should discipline change based on the situation, personality, and ages of children? Give an example.

[**mc3Student**: *How has discipline changed for you over the years?*]

•The ultimate goal of discipline is to guide us back on the path—it’s what God does for us! Have someone slowly read Hebrews 12:5-11. At the end of each paragraph, stop and share what we learn about discipline.

→In the Point last week we learned that “success/health” in our family is based on whether Jesus is first (the keystone!)\*. As it relates to your family, which one of the following do you most need to work on to make Jesus first? Go around the room and have everyone share.

- Living It...being the example of Jesus to your family
  - 1 Corinthians 11:1
- Pointing It...intentionally directing your family back to Jesus
  - John 3:22-30
- Praying It...taking time to pray for and *with* your family
  - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

If it’s possible with your group, break up into individual families and have them pray for the [above] needs that were shared for their family.

[**mc3Student**: adapt prayer time as necessary]

*\*someone who was in the Point may need to explain this*

## Bible Verses

### Proverbs 13:24 (NIV)

Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them.

### Ephesians 4:26-27 (NLT)

And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

### Proverbs 23:13-14 (NLT)

Don't fail to discipline your children. The rod of punishment won't kill them. Physical discipline may well save them from death.

### Hebrews 12:5-11 (NLT)

And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, "My child, don't make light of the lord's discipline, and don't give up when he corrects you. For the lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."

As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever?

For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness. No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening— it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.