

How to break the barrier?



Many of us feel that our kids are not listening to what we have to say to them. That they block us from their life and build a big barrier between our world and their world. Are both worlds different? Yes, they are!

That's why we need to pay attention not only to what we say to them but also HOW we say it! Here's how we can break the barrier:

1. **Be a good listener-** many kids complain that their parents don't give them a chance to explain their side of the problem. They simply yell at them before trying to understand their point of view. Give them the time and the chance to tell you what they need to say without any fear of criticism.

"Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart." (Proverbs 29:17)

2. **Avoid being negative-** no matter what kids do, or how they make wrong judgment that put them in bad situations. Be on their side and help them solve their problems without putting them down. You can communicate with them without making them feel bad about themselves. There is a big difference in making them feel bad about something they did wrong and making them feel bad about themselves.

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)

3. **Give Advice-** You should always guide your kids in their lives, but you should also give them the opportunity to come up with a solution for a problem they caused. With this, you are allowing them to be problem solver, and you've showed them that you trust their ability to resolve any problem.

"A wise son hears his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke."

4. **Make time-** set a time to spend with you kids to discuss any issues they might have in their life.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

5. **Be a good example-** if you want your child to behave in a good manner, then you should start with yourself.

"My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it." - Clarence Budinton Kelland

Trust that your child will learn from his/her mistake, and with God's guidance, you are able to break all barriers. You will never be able to live in their world, but with your strong WILL you can be part of their world.