

## FAMILY #4 KNOWING WHEN TO TURN LOOSE

1CH 13:9 ¶ *And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled.* (when the ark is on a cart and an oxen stumbles, it is not accidental. God is aware of it. God is very much in control)

1CH 13:10 *And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God.*

LUK 15:14 *And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.*

LUK 15:15 *And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.*

LUK 15:16 *And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.*

LUK 15:17 *And when he came to himself, ...*

What are we to do when we have done everything to bring a child to his rightful place and he rebels or turns away from us? There comes that time that we must release them to the consequences of life. That does not mean we give up on them or stop loving them. We just release them to assume responsibility for their own actions.

If we want the results of the prodigal story then we must follow the principles of the story. Don't forget the boy ended up on a hog pen. This is tough love.

Yet there is a positive side of negative circumstances.

### 1. GOD GIVEN CONSEQUENCES ARE GOOD THINGS NOT BAD.

GAL 6:7 *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*

Do good you are rewarded with good, evil we are rewarded with evil. Good consequences are good, and bad consequences are good.

“Everyone sits down to a banquet of consequences”.

Illustrations of positive consequences.

Honor father and mother- days will be long

PRO 22:4 *By humility [and] the fear of the LORD [are] riches, and honour, and life.*

PRO 24:6 *For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors [there is] safety.*

PRO 13:20 *He that walketh with wise [men] shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.*

Sins or negative things with negative consequences.

PRO 22:26 *Be not thou [one] of them that strike hands, [or] of them that are sureties for debts. (cosign a note and you can lose all)*

PRO 16:18 *Pride [goeth] before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.*

PRO 20:13 *Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty*

PRO 21:17 *He that loveth pleasure [shall be] a poor man*

All these consequences are good for human kind.

Negative things have good consequences.

*Ill.* A severe diabetic saw a piece of flaky skin on her toe and pulled it off. Later looked at it and had pulled half the toe off. There was no feeling of pain in the toe.

*Ill.* The cancer patient that feels pain can do something about it. No pain it can be too late.

Pain can indeed be a blessing.

If there were no negative consequences in life people would continue in sin.

Don't feel sorry for the prodigal being in the hog pen one second. Rejoice! Be sorry that he got into riotous living. It was the hog pen and its condition that sent him home.

The blessing to the prodigal was that "no one gave to him". Thank God!

Next verse says "then he came to himself".

If you want someone to come home don't support their sinning.

2. DO NOTHING TO HELP A SINNER DETERMINE THE SIN, YOU SLOW DOWN THE CONSEQUENCES AND THEREBY SLOW DOWN HIS REPENANCE.

V12 The saddest part of the story is the father gave the child his inheritance before he was mature enough to handle it.

A rebel should be given nothing but love.  
Give them Christmas, birthday, etc. gifts and tell them you love them. But do not support them.

As long as we support them they will not repent.  
When does he began to repent? When the stomach growls, and there is no roof over his head.

A sinner will learn much quicker that the way of the transgressor is hard.

*PRO 28:17 A man that doeth violence to the blood of [any] person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.*

Don't deliver him from the consequences of his actions, let him feel the full brunt of it.

The devil will say the reason your children are rebellious are because of your high standards! Not so, they have rebellion in their heart because they have to submit to authority.

*Ill.* Repeat pregnancies on welfare roles because they are being supported in their sin

Keep supporting the sin and we slow down the repentance.

*Ill.* Get a speeding ticket they should pay for it.

“to let go does not mean I stopped caring. It means I cannot do it for someone else. We are not to enable but to learn from natural consequences. To let go is to admit powerlessness! Which means the outcome is not in my hands.

To let go is not to be less protective; it is to permit another to face reality.

Dominate but to be willing to let things happen.

Betray the past but to have hope in the future.

Means to fearless, and let go more.

Enablers are those who help one to continue in their sin.

Enablers stretch out and extend the consequences and stop a person from seeing the need for repentance.

When the ark is shaken from the stumble of the ox God was at work, Uzzah should have let the ark fall. It was God's rule, therefore God's responsibility.

### 3. TO STOP GOD GIVEN CONSEQUENCE IS TO TAKE THOSE CONSEQUENCES ON YOURSELF OR ON OTHERS.

Uzzah was stricken with the consequences that should have been placed on the others that was doing wrong.

*PRO 19:19 A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if thou deliver [him], yet thou must do it again.* (again and again and again...Who is getting the consequences? You or him? YOU!

*Ill. Spending.* Give credit cards. Home working full time ran up \$14,000. Parents cosigned a note that could be paid off in 5 years. Within one year she had charged another \$9000 on her credit card. Her father rescued her. He gave her 17,000 interest free loan from his retirement money. She hasn't paid a dime in 8 months. She since has ran up another 5000 on another credit card. "It is hard to see your child drowning and not toss her a life jacket," her mother said.

What can they do? Stop being enablers.

Let her take responsibility for her own actions.

Help only after they have repented and truly learned the lesson. We are too quick to grab the ark.

We are doing the same in our prison system. We let them off too often without penalty. Society suffers the consequences when they are let go.

When you bring a rebellious sinner into your home and you have children what happens?

You almost guarantee the fall of the younger ones in the home.

1Co 5 a man continues to come to church that is having sex with his father's wife.

Paul tells them....1CO 5:5 *To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*

We must get them to the hog pen as fast as we can.

Jesus warned about “leaven”. It brings danger to the home.  
If the rebel is permitted to continue to break the unity and peace of the home.

4. IT REQUIRES MORE GENUINE LOVE TO LET SOMEONE FACE THE CONSEQUENCES THAT WILL HELP HIM THAN TO DELIVER HIM FROM THEM.

Love looks to the repentance that will come.  
Bible says if you do not discipline the child you don't love him.

The love that is not strong enough to deal with rebellion often is not strong enough to let go when the consequences of rebellion begins.

Some are so comfortable in the hog pen because they got there so slowly.  
When they get to the pen quickly often the shock of it will turn them.

ECC 8:11 *Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.*

Speedy justice and speedy consequence will bring repentance.  
*Ill.* Adam and Eve were quickly ousted from the garden.

God put angels with swords so they could not return.  
When they leave home close the door to your help for them till they repent.  
Love them but don't finance their sin.

It is hard to continue to do the right thing.

God shuts up his house or the heavens until we repent.

None of us ever suffer all the consequences that we deserve. God gave us his son to redeem our wrongs when we repent.