



PARENTS **PARKids** CHRONICLE

Growing in Grace at Grandview Park

PARENTING SURVEY RESULTS

Last month we began a series dedicated to the subject of complaining. This month we are going to interrupt that series in order to pass along some of the results of the recent Grandview Park Baptist Church Parenting Survey. Listed below are some of the survey questions and results, as well as my thoughts regarding the results. There were twenty total responses to the survey. I will not list most of your comments word-for-word, as the survey did not indicate that comments would be made public.

PARENTING SELF-ANALYSIS

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Total Responses
<i>How do you view yourself as a parent? 1 (a failure) to 5 (on the right path)</i>	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	15.0% (3)	65.0% (13)	20.0% (4)	4.05	20
<i>Do you think you spend enough "quality time" with your children? 1 (hardly any) to 5 (overall a good amount)</i>	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	25.0% (5)	55.0% (11)	15.0% (3)	3.80	20
<i>How would you characterize the atmosphere in your home? 1 (dominated by anger, arguing, complaining) to 5 (primarily love, kindness, gentleness)</i>	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	10.0% (2)	75.0% (15)	15.0% (3)	4.05	20

Analysis: Most parents believe that they are more or less on the right path (85%), that they spend a fair to good amount of time with their children (70%), and that the atmosphere in their home is more positive than negative (90%). However, the comments also indicated that most parents feel they have room for improvement. Also, in some cases the parent completing the survey felt there are differences between the two parents that affect the atmosphere in the home.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

	Almost never	1-2 times/wk	3-4 times/wk	5-7 times/wk		Rating Average	Total Responses
<i>How often do you have family devotions?</i>	45.0% (9)	25.0% (5)	15.0% (3)	15.0% (3)		2.00	20

	Worthless	Not Helpful	Neutral	Helpful	Very Helpful	Rating Average	Total Responses
<i>How beneficial do you think your family devotion times are for your family?</i>	5.3% (1)	5.3% (1)	21.1% (4)	26.3% (5)	42.1% (8)	3.95	19

Analysis: Most parents believe family devotions are important. They also believe that when they have them, they are beneficial (65% helpful or very helpful). However, most parents do not have regular family devotions—45% have them almost never; 70% have them twice per week or less. Several parents noted that although they do not have regular family devotion times, they do make a point to have spiritual conversations at the dinner table or throughout the course of the day.

CONFLICT IN THE HOME

	Answers	Total Responses
<i>Name 1 or 2 situations that cause the most conflict/stress in your home.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sibling rivalry/fighting/arguing (9) 2) Table manners/mealtime (2) 3) Bedtime (2) 4) Others: Getting ready to go somewhere; Stress on parent outside the home causes problems within the home; Being unified in discipline; Balancing responsibilities & expectations; Children obeying the first time we tell them to do something rather than elevating the issue to yelling to get their attention; Money; Getting the children to do the chores around the house without constant reminders; Kids' volume; Selfishness 	18

Analysis: Not surprisingly, one of the primary problems in the home is conflict: conflict between siblings and conflict between parents and children. Fortunately, the Bible has much to say about this! This year the January through April editions of this newsletter were dedicated to the topic of Conflict in the Home. Copies of those newsletters are available at the Parenting Book Table in the church foyer until Aug. 17. They can also be accessed online at www.grandviewparkbaptist.org/ministries_children.asp. I would also recommend the book *Peacemaking for Families* by Ken Sande. It can be ordered at the Parenting Book Table until Aug. 17.

PARENTING SURVEY RESULTS – CONT.

THE PARKids PARENTS CHRONICLE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Total Responses
Do you read the PARKids Parents Chronicle? 1 (never) to 5 (always)	0.0% (0)	10.0% (2)	15.0% (3)	30.0% (6)	45.0% (9)	4.10	20
How helpful do you find the information in the Parents Chronicle? 1 (not helpful) to 5 (very helpful)	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	30.0% (6)	45.0% (9)	20.0% (4)	3.80	20
Do you use and follow through with the suggestions in the newsletter? 1 (never have) to 5 (usually)	10.0% (2)	30.0% (6)	35.0% (7)	20.0% (4)	5.0% (1)	2.80	20

Analysis: Most parents read the *PARKids Parents Chronicle* almost always or always (75%). Most parents find the information helpful or very helpful (65%). Fewer parents put the suggestions in the *Parents Chronicle* into practice (only 25% often or usually). Be on the lookout in the coming months for a followup survey on how the *Parents Chronicle* can be improved.

MOST REQUESTED TOPICS

	Choices	Rating Average	Total Responses
Which of the following would you like information about? Check your top five.	Dealing with arguing, complaining, talking back	55.00%	11
	Teaching children doctrine	40.00%	8
	Family devotions	40.00%	8
	Family fun ideas	35.00%	7
	Children and money	35.00%	7
	Sibling rivalry/fighting	30.00%	6
	Family dinner time	30.00%	6
	Discipline	30.00%	6
	Children and their friends	30.00%	6
	Manners	25.00%	5
	Internet/chat guidelines & filtering	25.00%	5
	Children's self-image	25.00%	5
	Spending quality time with your children	20.00%	4
	Family vacations	20.00%	4
	Prayer	15.00%	3
	Music for children	15.00%	3
	TV/movie viewing helps	10.00%	2
Kids and extracurricular activities (sports, etc.)	10.00%	2	
Help for single parents	10.00%	2	
Dealing with lying	10.00%	2	
Clothing/modesty issues	10.00%	2	

Analysis: Once again, conflict in the home is a primary concern (see the bottom of page one for more information). Several of the topics above have been addressed in previous issues of the *Parents Chronicle*, such as teaching children doctrine, family devotions, children and money, family dinner time, discipline, and internet filtering, but may be repeated in upcoming issues. The current series in the *Parents Chronicle* on complaining will resume next month. The *Parents Chronicle* regularly lists ideas for fun family times together. We also desire to make you aware of other resources, such as the books on display at the Parenting Book Table.

PARENTING CLASSES

	Choices	Rating Average	Total Responses
Are you interested in (and willing to commit to) any of the following? Check all that apply.	Elective study on parenting during the ABF hour	64.70%	11
	8-10 week evening Bible study on parenting during the summer	52.90%	9
	Saturday seminar on parenting with a guest speaker	52.90%	9
	Study on parenting in your current ABFG	41.20%	7
	10-12 week evening Bible study on parenting during school year	23.50%	4

Analysis: Various possibilities for parenting classes are being considered.

Thanks to those who participated in the survey. It is my desire to help you as parents as you raise your children to walk with God. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist you. I'm praying for you!

GRANDVIEW PARK BAPTIST CHURCH CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES