

The Millennial Pendulum: Parenting a Post-Millennial

I. Pendulum Parenting is Reactive

- Don't feed your kids healthy food because you don't want them to be fat. Don't feed your kids unhealthy food because you didn't like your parents strict diet.
- Don't let your kids stay up late because you didn't like your curfew as a child, but don't make your kids go to bed early simply because you heard that Centennials don't get enough sleep.
- King Rehoboam failed his kingdom because he took reactionary advice from his younger counselors (**I Kings 12:1-19**).
- Acknowledge the temptation to parent this way and run from it! **Proverbs 22:3** "*The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.*"

II. Godly Parenting is Active

- Study God's Word to know its Truth.
- Do right simply because God said it.
- If you see negative consequences growing in your children's life, pay attention!
- Address the sin against God, don't parent simply to change the consequences.
- **Deuteronomy 6:4-9** "*Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*"
- **Psalms 119:9-16** "*How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. 10 With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! 11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! 13 With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. 14 In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. 15 I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. 16 I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.*"

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Don't parent your children because you're afraid of what they may become. That's reactionary parenting. Parent your children because of what God want's them to become.