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Parenting & The 10 Commandments

RABBI LAMM

The first five of the Aseret Hadibrot are intertwined with raising children.

The Ohr Hachayim Hakadosh says that we learn all the positive Mitzvot from the first Commandment and we learn all the Negative from the Second Commandment.

1)Anochi Hashem Elokecha Asher Hotzisicha MeEretz Mitzrayim

-Parents are the first people a child sees and the Parent tells the child I am your parent and this is what I did....

-In Kriyat Shema we read Veshanantem Lbenecha Vdebarta Bom Beshivtecha Bebetecha Ubelechtecha Baderech Uveshavcecha Uvkumecha=A child sees what the Parents do Yahadut does **NOT** believe in do as I say not as I do!!!!

2)Dont Have any other G-ds al Panai

-When someone tells you that you CANNOT do something your initial reaction is to find someone who tells you that you CAN do it! If the father says NO the child will run to the mother or visa versa! Parents must be on the same side and teach their children what NO means! If a child learns what NO means after a while he will not even want what he thought he wanted. The Ibn Ezra that if a person believes something is impossible he will not want it. Example: A Jewish mother and child are standing in line at the grocery store and the child wants a candy bar if the mother says no the child will just continue complaining but if the mother says its NOT kosher magically the child doesn't want it anymore! If the child really knows what no means it will have the same effect!

3)Do not take my name in Vain!!!!!!

-A child must honor his parents and must realize that he cannot call his parents by their first names they are not your friends!!!!

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4)Zechor et Yom HaShabat Lekadsho!!!

-Hashem gave us a special a gift its the only mitzvah a goy cannot do because it was a gift to the Jews.

-Shabbat is the perfect time to spend time with ones family and really build a connection with them!

-I heard Rav Ephraim Shapiro quote Rav Meir Shapiro of Lublin Zecher Tzadik Vekadosh Lbarach saying The Eisha Shulamit took care of Elisha..So Elisha davened that this woman can have a child. One day this child was playing in the field and his head hurt and he died his mother took him up to the attic and went to call Elisha. She told him I didn't ask you for this child and now he dies! So Elisha went up to revive the child when he went up it says he 1)Closed the door 2) Davened to Hashem 3)Put his mouth to the boy's mouth 4)Put his Eyes on the boy's Eyes 5)Put his hands on the boys hands 6)He warmed the boy's flesh

Rav Meir Shapiro says that if you want to build a connection with your child you have to do what Elisha did

1)You have to close the door=Nothing else matters! Shut your phone off, Dont check your email, Turn the Tv off, NOTHING else matters besides your child!

The Gemara says that the Torah is like a Door and Yirat Shamayim is like a house! Close the door! First build a connection with your child leave all the Torah(criticism) outside! Show your child that you care and after that you can start to bring Torah in! The Rambam says that you should put one around your child and hit with the other in that order first you MUST show your child that your care and love them and then you can rebuke them!

2)Mouth to Mouth= Talk to your child in a way that he will understand, talk to him about things that interest him!

3)Eyes on Eyes= See things from your child's perspective!!

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4)Hands on Hands=Look for things to do with your child that HE enjoys find things that he will like and put aside time to do those things!

And ABOVE ALL Daven to Hashem for help!!Before you are about to talk to you child Daven to Hashem that you will say the right things and that you will do the right things and not do anything wrong!!!!

5)Kaved Et Avicha vet Imecha

-Kavod is translated two ways in English-1)Honor 2)Respect

You can command a person to Honor their parents but you cannot command a person to respect their parents! A child can show honor to his father when he walks in the child will stand up but the child has NO respect for his father he might even think the father is a piece of dirt(chas)!!!Rav Yaakov Shapiro and many others say a line that is very true IF YOU WANT RESPECT YOU MUST SHOW RESPECT!!!!!!Parents have to realize that if they want their children to respect them they MUST MUST MUST show their kids respect!!!!

Rav Ephraim Shapiro tells a story of an 11th grade class who was exactly like my 5th grade class who went thru a teacher a day! The school was looking for someone to teach the class one day a guy walks in and applies for the job so the Rabbi asked him if he had any experience so the Guy said he was straight out of kollel and the Rabbi thought to himself that this guy is out of here by the end of the day!! So the day was over and the guy walks out and is smiling a nice huge smile and the Rabbi was a bit confused but said ok I will give him another day and then he is gone! Another day week month a couple of months went by and the guy is still smiling and the class is doing GREAT! Comes the last day of school and the Rabbi walks over and tells the guy I have to ask how did you do it? So the guy said I was waiting for you to ask that! So he told the Rabbi that when he got in to the class the first day and when I went down the list I saw that you wrote their IQs next to their names and I saw 180 185 190 195 I was like WOW they trust me with GENIUSES!!!!!!So being that they were all Geniuses I looked up to them and talked up to them and when they saw I respected them they started to respected and it

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went like that the whole respect both ways! So the Rabbi told him those numbers are actually their locker numbers!!!Doesnt matter what the numbers were we have to know that if we want respect we MUST give it!!!!Doesnt matter who you are parent rabbi etc you will get honor bc that is commanded but you MUST earn RESPECT!!!!Hashem Yitbarach Shemo L'ad should bless us all with parents and children who respect us and parents and children that we can respect!!!!AMEN

Rav Saadia Gaon writes: Why does the Torah promise long life as a reward for honoring one's parents? and he answers: If a child honors his parents and cherishes them in their old age when they can no longer care for themselves his own children will be inspired by this example and he will have the privilege of enjoying a long life and a blessed old age surrounded by the tender care of his own children!!!If you want something you must give it to and especially when it comes to your kids they will watch how you act with your parents and act the same to you!! Rav Lamm told a story of a child who was stealing pencils from all the kids in school so the principal called the father and told him about it so the father answered what does he need to steal pencils for I get him all the pencils he needs from my office!!!KIDS WILL FOLLOW THEIR PARENTS!!PARENTS ARE ROLE MODELS!!! Parents must know this and act accordingly!!!!