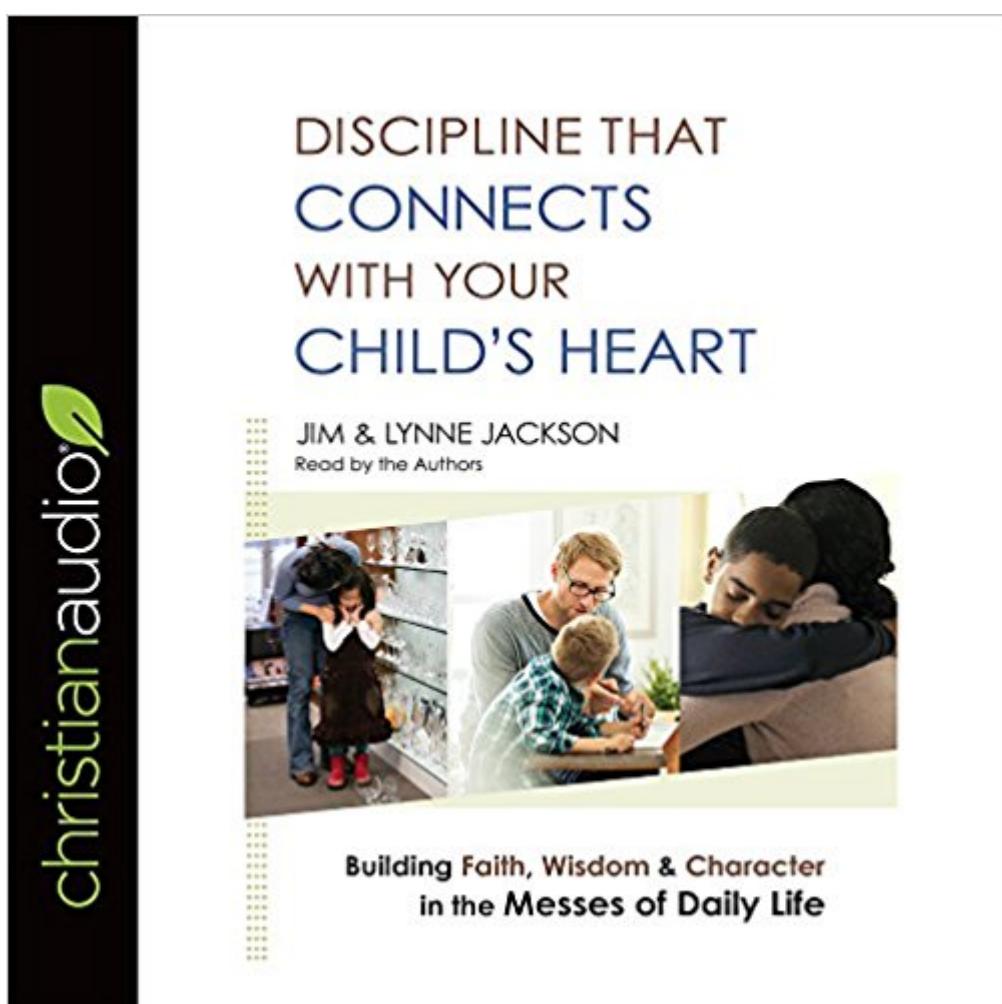


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# Discipline That Connects With Your Child's Heart: Building Faith, Wisdom, And Character In The Messes Of Daily Life



## **Synopsis**

A Powerful Approach to Bringing God's Grace to Kids Did you know that the way we deal (or don't deal) with our kids; misbehavior shapes their beliefs about themselves, the world, and God? Therefore it's vital to connect with their hearts--not just their minds--amid the daily behavior battles. With warmth and grace, Jim and Lynne Jackson, founders of Connected Families, offer four tried-and-true keys to handling any behavioral issues with love, truth, and authority. You will learn practical ways to communicate messages of grace and truth, how to discipline in a way that motivates your child, and how to keep your relationship strong, not antagonistic. Discipline is more than just a short-term attempt to modify your child's actions--it's a long-term investment to help them build faith, wisdom, and character for life. When you discover a better path to discipline, you'll find a more well-behaved--and well-believed--kid.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

You Can Connect With Your Child's Heart Through Discipline Parents want to raise respectful, responsible, and faith-filled kids. But when kids misbehave, parents often feel lost and confused, and don't realize that their discipline can make things worse in the long run. Jim and Lynne Jackson, founders of Connected Families, teach four powerful principles for discipline that shape both behavior and your kids' hearts. You'll learn to communicate--even when your kids are at their worst--that they are safe with you, loved no matter what, capable of wise choices, and responsible to make right the things they've made wrong. As you impart these messages, you'll create strong

relationships, build lasting wisdom and character, and bring God's grace to life in your home!"Parents have no joy and carry no burden like the well-being of their children. The Jacksons seek to place wisdom, love, and grace at the core of the family."--John Ortberg, senior pastor, Menlo Church; author, *All the Places to Go*"This book is filled with real-life, practical advice that will transform the way you discipline your kids. I highly recommend it!"--Kristen Welch, bestselling author, *Raising Grateful Kids in an Entitled World* --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Jim and Lynne JacksonÂ (www.connectedfamilies.org) have conducted over 1,300 workshops for parents and privately coached more than 1,000 parents since the early 1990s. They are media spokespeople for a variety of parenting issues, frequently speaking at churches and parenting conferences. The Jacksons have three children and live in Minnesota.

I've read many parenting books, and this one truely outshines them all! It addresses heart change over immediate behaveral correction. It gives real examples that help bring their teachings to life and understanding! This has had a huge impact on my heart and with God's grace and leading I pray my husband and I will use these tactics to influence our children to feel safe, and respect us because they look up to us not just fear us. Amazing and life changing!

All of the advice resonates with me, as a Christian and as a parent.

Eye opening. I ,honestly, ordered this book out of frustration with my son. As not all children are the same so is the method of discipline for each child. and this book reveals this truth.

This book came at just the right time for me. We have a 7 year old and a 2 year old. Our 7 year old rarely listens and has started to talk back and resist discipline. I've had many moments of heart-wrenching anger and tears, shouting matches with her, and sometimes pleading with God for help. A lot of nights I go to sleep feeling so guilty and ashamed of my behavior - I feel like a bad parent. I really was at the end of my rope and had lost all hope. I have tried other discipline techniques and books, but didn't really commit to them, so they never worked. This book is different than anything I've read before. There are many examples of the authors' own experiences with their children, as well as other families they have coached. What I really like about their examples though, is that they admit just how bad it was in their own family sometimes - and while I bet that was hard to think about and write, it was so comforting to read. Many books just tell you what to do,

but rarely do you read a book that actually makes you say, OK, so I'm not the only one who is so far gone, I'm not the only one who feels/felt this hopeless. It's like having a best friend and counselor right there with you! Many times I have been too tired and too angry to spend my night time reading discipline books. But it's not like that with this book - I feel like it's a calm book, one that I actually want to open after I'm done with the bedtime struggle. It took some time for techniques to sink in but for the first time ever, I've actually been able to catch myself IN THE MOMENT and either redirect or have a do-over. And one time, I was able to stop yelling, be calm and gently hug my daughter, and what do you know - she got up and finally did what I had been asking her to do (for the past 2 hours)! It was a great moment. I'm not completely finished with the book and I have a long way to go to change my own behavior, but I look forward to the journey (for the first time). If you feel like your child(ren) are slipping away, going down the wrong road with their behavior; if you feel like nothing has worked and feel hopeless; if you have evidence or even an inkling that your own behavior is modeling the wrong thing to your kids - then I would buy this book. You have nothing to lose, only lots to gain, and it's worth it. I had started to realize that God loves me, even in all my imperfections - and that He wants us to show the same kind of mercy and love to our children. Then I started reading this book, and it was like God had steered me to it, because they talk about this in the book! I signed up to receive this book for free, in exchange for this honest review - but it was mere coincidence (or a miracle?) that I came upon that offer when I did. This truly is a great book. Give it a shot. Good luck and hug your child(ren)!

Great book

I am really torn about the new book, Discipline That Connects With Your Child's Heart by Jim and Lynne Jackson. The authors are obviously trying to counter what they see as parents who never really listen to their kids and correct in anger and for childish mistakes, not just rebellion. They also introduce godly principles and commands into the parenting mix. Obviously, I am a huge fan of all of those principles. The problem I have with the book is really two-fold. First, the overall tone of the book is a bit touchy-feely for my tastes. I prefer a more straight-forward style. There is nothing wrong with writing or preferring a less direct style. Unfortunately though, that style always makes me want to immediately reject things that are shared even when I am a strong proponent of those very things because of the way they are written. It just feels a little too ethereal. If you enjoy that style, you will appreciate this book, because it is a rather unique way to write a parenting book. My other issue is with some of the remaining content. I really vacillated on this quite a bit,

because much of what they promote is important parenting advice. Unfortunately, some of the advice is either wrong (in my opinion of course), stated in a way that is confusing enough for people to get the wrong idea or taking a couple of scriptures out of context of the rest of scripture in an attempt to prove a point. One of my biggest concerns is that the authors appear to think the word "obedience" is a bad word. They cite examples of parents who are so focused on forcing a child to obey, they cause power struggles or miss the fact that their child's heart is rebellious in spite of compliant actions. While I agree with the rest of their theory, I have to reject the notion that "obedience" is a bad word in parenting. Let's face it. God expects us to obey. How many times are the words obedience or obey mentioned in the Bible? Your children learn to obey God in part by learning to obey you. At times, you do give them reasons for your rules and so does God. On the other hand, when your child is running out in the street in front of a speeding car "absolute, immediate compliance is vital. God sometimes works the same way. We just have to obey because He is God and He said so. I am also concerned about the idea of in the heat of the moment having a long drawn out discussion with a two year old about the pros and cons of biting. Sometimes, a quick "no, we don't bite other people" and consequences are your best friend and more educational to the child. Which brings me to another concern. The authors seem to have no knowledge of Kohlberg's work on moral development. Each stage incorporates and builds on previous stages. What's the first stage on which the highest moral development is built? A healthy respect and fear of punishment. I don't believe in overly strict or abusive parenting, but I do think firm boundaries and consistent rule enforcement with consistent, mostly natural consequences are appropriate and godly. I appreciate their attempts to help parents understand the idea that your child's strengths often bring with them weaknesses that can cause behavior issues. I do not think though that when a child is in full rebellion mode, it is the best time to say you are misbehaving because you are so gifted in this area. There are lots of opportunities for that, but a child does need to understand they have made a poor choice and not just exhibiting giftedness. I have known people who were parented in that way. Their take away was that the parent secretly wished they could be doing those inappropriate and/or sinful things. Not to mention, they used Philippians 4:8 as some sort of proof text that you should only focus on your child's good points as you correct them. First, I think they take the verse and give it an unusual twist at best. Secondly, they point to how Jesus interacted with Peter as an example. What they fail to remember is that those are separate incidents. When Peter failed to walk on water, Jesus corrected him. There were many, many times Jesus corrected Peter. Did Jesus love Peter and show and tell him about his gifts and potential?

Absolutely, but most of the time not in the middle of a correction. I just kept thinking about how the author said kids who lie are creative and have a great memory and should be praised for that while you are correcting them for a lie. My thought was Ananias and Sapphira. I don't recall anyone saying "Wow, aren't those two creative, with great memories?" Nor did God say that to Adam and Eve or others who lied. I also do not at all approve of letting a child say hateful, spiteful things to anyone for thirty or more minutes in the "good" parenting examples they gave. The authors said it was okay because the child was venting. So sorry, but that is why there are things like road rage today. In our house, when those words first started to fly, we calmly told her we don't speak to each other that way (and no one is ever allowed to say "I hate you" you can say "I am so angry I could shoot flames out of my nose" or some other additional modifier, but never "hate") and she could go cool off and come back when she was ready to speak more calmly. Honestly, this book was written as if it were for parents with teens who were totally out-of-control. Many of their examples would never happen if more appropriate parenting were done when children were little. It would have been great for them to share that parents could often avoid these scenarios entirely if they parented their children differently when they are young. I wish the authors had spent more time addressing the real issue they were trying to correct, but missed hammering home. Parents aren't spending nearly enough meaningful time with their kids. They don't really know their kids or their hearts. They don't really listen to their kids. They don't constantly talk about God and what He wants for them and from them like commanded in Deuteronomy. They don't love their kids in ways the kids can feel and believe. Ultimately, almost every parenting ill they attempt to address would be corrected with truly loving, involved parenting. The book does address specific scenarios in the back and how to handle each one. Once again while much of the advice was good, it was ultimately just too much. Obedience and rules with a very loving relationship do not foster rebellion or encourage separation from God. It is expecting obedience and rules with little or no relationship that is the problem plaguing parents today. While this book may help you in many ways, I wish they had focused on that instead of pushing the wrong boundaries. This book was given to me for free in exchange for my honest review.

This book has changed our parenting and our kids. LOVE it!

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