



Dealing With An Angry Child

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“A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.”

Proverbs 25:28

“It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife, but every fool will be quarreling.”

Proverbs 20:3

Anger is: “An active displeasure toward something that is important enough to care about.”

David Powlison, *Good and Angry*

James 4:1-3—

James 3:13-18--

Synthesis:

- At its core, man’s anger displaces God as _____ and places oneself on the throne.
- When I get angry, I am holding _____ and all of me is involved.
- Each one of us have an anger problem, it’s not just our children.
- Anger _____ the problem, but it can’t _____ the problem!

Biblical Principles:

1. If I am going to speak into anger, I need to _____ my own struggle with anger. (Matt. 7:3-5)
2. Anger calls for a _____ change, not just behavioral modification. (James 4:1-3)
3. Man’s anger does not accomplish God’s righteousness. (James 1:19-20)
4. Mercy triumphs over our anger and judgment. (James 2:13b)
5. It is mercy and kindness that leads to repentance. (Romans 2:3-5)

Application:

Help your child recognize when they are getting frustrated.

Seek to Understand: (Definitions & Questions are taken from *Good & Angry* by David Powlison)

- What is it that you want right now? Why does that thing matter so much to you?
- What do you believe about yourself or others in what just took place?
- What are you afraid of (fear is desire turned backwards, what I don’t want to happen)?
- What are you hoping for or wishing would happen?

Confess the desire and ask God to replace it with what He desires, mercy over and above our own way.

Consider studying the Book of James at some length.

(Judge, court, reveals, solve, address, heart)