



### ***Extreme Parenting***

#### **It's Caught, Not Taught (Stewardship)**

**By Pastor David Hillis, 11 November 2012**

The most powerful way to influence others is with our actions, not our words;

- By what they see in us, not what we *say*.
- That means we influence others by modeling it - consistently and relevantly.

Stewardship is about being the administrator of the affairs of another. The word "steward" actually means "a person responsible for managing another's property".

Proverbs 3:9-10; Proverbs 28:28, 21:13

#### **How Do We Influence Others To Change?**

##### **1. By modeling it and being CONSISTENT.**

The best way for us to be motivated to change our nature is to see it *modeled* in front of us on a consistent basis. In other words, it's more effectively *caught* than *taught*.

##### **2. By modeling it in ways that are RELEVANT.**

Our children won't learn how to be good stewards of their lives just because they see us consistently doing so. They have to understand *why* what we are doing *matters*.

#### **Modeling Stewardship**

How do we help our kids find ways to understand stewardship, and how giving of their time, talents and treasures is relevant?

1. We have to understand their heart and gifts.
2. Set up opportunities, and encourage opportunities they find, to give and serve.

"I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day.

I'd rather one would walk with me than merely tell the way.

The eye's a better pupil and far more willing than the ear.

Fine counsel is confusing, but the example is always clear.

I can soon learn how to do it if you'll let me see it done.

I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.

A lecture you may deliver (Listen parents) may be very wise and true,

But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do.

For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give,

But there is no misunderstanding in how you act and live."

**Edgar Guest**