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Recommended Books on Various Aspects of Relationships

I want to thank the counselors and “people in the know” who shared with me helpful books on various aspects of relationship. Some recommendations came to me with a brief review, others with only a title. I hope this resource is helpful for you.

Remember ... *Live Faithfully and Finish Well.*

Grace and Peace, Bill

PARENTING

Campbell, Ross, **How to Really Love Your Child.**

Many parents would be dismayed to discover that their child feels unloved. In this best-selling book, Dr. D. Ross Campbell reveals the emotional needs of a child and provides parents with the skill and techniques that can begin to help make your child feel truly loved and accepted. You'll learn to really love your child through every situation of child rearing from physical touch to discipline and from affirmation to spiritual nurture.

Campbell, Ross, **How to Really Love Your Teenager**

Chapman, Gary & Campbell, Ross, **The Five Love Languages of Children.**

Children express and receive love in different ways. Are you speaking your child's love language? Dr. Gary Chapman identifies these as the five languages of love: Quality time, words of affirmation, gifts, acts of service & physical touch.

Chapter 10, Anger & Love excellent in helping children handle their anger.

Cloud, Henry & Townsend, **Boundaries with Kids.**

Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend show you how to bring control to an out-of-control family life. How to set limits and still be a loving parent. How to define legitimate boundaries for your family. And above all, how to instill in your children the kind of godly character that is the foundation for healthy, productive adult living.

Cloud, Henry & Townsend, John, **Raising Great Kids**

Cloud & Townsend show how parenting is not just intellectual work--it also demands emotional maturity and spiritual wisdom.

Dobson, James, **Preparing for Adolescence.**

*When your child is 10 (or 11 depending on the maturity of your child) read this book, **then** read it with your child. It is a tremendous tool to help your child navigating adolescence!*

Faber, Adele & Mazlish, Elaine **How to Talk so Kids will Listen and Listen so Kids will Talk.**

WONDERFUL! This book made a HUGE difference in our home. Enthusiastically praised by parents and professionals around the world, the down-to-earth, respectful approach of Faber and Mazlish makes relationships with children of all ages less stressful and more rewarding.

Hart, Archibald, **Helping Children Survive Divorce What to Expect; How to Help**

This is an excellent book to help build a healthier post divorce life for children. Hopefully, parents going through a divorce can hear this advice and apply it. It is also great for other adults who interact with children of divorce (aunts/uncles/grandparents/friends).

Hart, Archibald, **Stress & Your Child**

Children are overstimulated, overpressured, overanxious... Stress & Your Child offers practical up-to-date information and down-to-earth guidance to “stressproof” your kids.

Hunt, Gladys, **Honey for a Child’s Heart**.

A compelling, essential guide for parents who want to find the best books for their children. Annotated List of Books for Ages 0-14.

Lucado, Max, **You Are Special**.

A book to read to your children, with great illustrations. The world tells kids, “You’re special if... you have brains, the looks, talent.” God tells them, “you’re special just because. No qualifications necessary.” Lucado has many other great books for children.

Pollack, William, **Real Boys**

Pollack, William, **Real Boys' Voices**

Trelease, Jim, **The Read-Aloud Handbook**.

A FAVORITE! Every child can become an avid reader, and in this book Jim Trelease shows how to make it happen. Includes a Treasure of Read-Alouds: wordless books, predictable books, reference books, picture books.....

Trent, John, **The Treasure Tree**

A book to read to your children that will teach kids about their personality; as well as to appreciate others for who they are. Kids will love this creative and fun book in which 4 animals (an otter, beaver, golden retriever & lion) teach personality traits and how to respect and appreciate each individual for who they are.

Trent, John, **The Two Trails**

The sequel to The Treasure Tree. Reinforces the lessons learned in The Treasure Tree. Our kids also LOVE this book!

Trent, John, **I’d Choose You** (ages 3-7)

Kids enjoy the fun text and great illustrations while learning how special they are. Every child goes through painful, difficult circumstances, and Norbert the Little Elephant is no exception. You’ll share his mom’s compassion for her hurting child and see his self-worth grow as she gives him a special blessing.

Ziglar, Zig, **Raising Positive Kids in a Negative World**.

Helpful & practical. A bestseller for three years, this is the positive thinker's guide to raising healthy, happy children. One of the most popular and respected inspirational authors, Ziglar discusses virtually every topic of concern to parents. Updated to contain new information on drug-proofing children.

DATING

Arterburn, Stephen, **Avoiding Mr. Wrong**

Cloud, Henry & Townsend, **Boundaries in Dating**.

Excellent book for teens, especially as they venture into the world of dating.

Smalley, Michael and Amy, **Don’t Date Naked**.

MARRIAGE

Chapman, Gary, **The Five Love Languages**.

Are you & your spouse speaking the same language? People express & receive love in different ways. Dr. Gary Chapman identifies these as the five languages of love: Quality time, words of affirmation, gifts, acts of service & physical touch.

Cloud, Henry & Townsend John, **Boundaries in Marriage**.

Establishing and understanding boundaries are crucial to the success of a marriage. For example, boundaries help us understand where one person ends and the other begins, the authors claim: "Once we know the boundaries, we know who should be owning the problem we are wrestling with," they write. "This issue of ownership is vital to any relationship, especially marriage." But more significantly, couples need to claim and take responsibility for the "treasures that lie within their individual borders," such as: "feelings, attitudes, behaviors, choices, limits, desires, thoughts, values, talents, and love." Based on the book that elevated them to national prominence, Cloud and Townsend caution readers not to use this self-help manifesto as a means to change one's spouse. Rather, this is a book about taking responsibility for oneself in all aspects of life, but especially within the boundaries of marital commitment.

Gottman, John, **Why Marriages Succeed or Fail**

Hart, Archibald and Hart Morris, Sharon, **Safe Haven Marriage Building a Relationship You Want to Come Home To**

Love, Patricia and Stosny, Steven **How to Improve Your Marriage Without Talking About it**

Wheat, Ed, **Love Life for Every Married Couple**.

Physician Ed Wheat has helped thousands of couples improve their love lives and build happier marriages. In Love Life for Every Married Couple he'll help you improve your marriage through sharing, touching, appreciating, and focusing healing attention on your mate.

OTHER LIFE ISSUES

Allender, Dan, **The Wounded Heart**

Helpful when dealing with and recovering from Abuse.

Beattie, Melody, **Codependent No More**

Beattie, Melody, **The Language of Letting Go**

Cloud, Henry & Townsend, John, **Boundaries**.

At the top of my Favorites list. For years, Drs. Cloud and Townsend have been teaching people how to set personal boundaries. Here they give you the biblical basis for setting limits, explain how to construct your own, and show how boundaries can be damaged. Discover methods for dealing with abusive or controlling people and keys for gaining control of your life!

Hendrix, Harvelle, **Getting the Love you Want**

Kreisman Jerold J., and Straus Hal, **I Hate You Don't Leave Me**

Leman, Kevin, **The Birth Order Book**.

Your birth order powerfully influences who you are, who you marry, the job you choose, and the kind of parent you are. Dr. Lemans classic will help you understand yourself, how to get along better with others and how to be more successful in the workplace.

Mason, Paul T., and Kreger, Randi, **Walking on Eggshells**

McGinnis, Alan Loy, **The Friendship Factor**

Smalley, Gary, with Smalley, Greg & Michael and Paul, Robert S., **The DNA of Relationships**.

Spring, Janis Abrahms, **After the Affair**

Styron, William, **Darkness Visible**.

Helpful for understanding Depression.

WEB SITES

<http://www.newlife.com/> Can order books by Cloud, Townsend, Ed Wheat & more.

<http://smalley.gospelcom.net/> Gary Smalley's website.

www.encouragingwords.com John Trent's website.

<http://www.family.org/> Website for Dr. James Dobson and Focus on the Family. Can order Clubhouse Junior Magazine (ages 4-8) and find MANY parenting/marriage resources.