

THRIVE!

LESSON 4B

TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITY TO THE CHILD



THE GOAL OF THIS LESSON

To learn how to transfer responsibility to children. You'll use a T-chart with your child to explore ways to overcome a particular challenge. Using anger as an example, parents, and children can discuss real solutions that work. Teens will be challenged to think practically and specifically about what change looks like in their lives.

WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH THIS LESSON

- You'll understand what it means to transfer responsibility to the child for change.
- You'll feel energized with a new tool to empower children to change.
- You'll use the T-Chart to help your child have a specific plan.

Transferring Responsibility to the Child

STARTING STRONG

Parents

Transfer Responsibility to the Child

Children can learn to report back after receiving an instruction, take initiative to get things done, and see what needs to be done and do it without being told. But, in order for that to take place, parents must do some training. If Mom and Dad try to be the conscience for a child by continually prompting, children will often become dependent. But if parents train children to look for ways to help, manage themselves in the morning, and do chores without reminders, then kids learn responsibility. This helps kids practice a verse like Philippians 2:3-4, "in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Furthermore, in the correction process it's important for children to take responsibility for their part of the problem. Asking the questions, "What did you do wrong?" "Why was that wrong?" "What are you going to do differently next time?" empowers kids to make changes instead of blaming or rationalizing their actions.

Young People

Become More Independent

Everyone needs a plan to deal with the small things of life. Sometimes young people have a plan for their education or future occupation, but what about a plan to deal with just getting things done around the house or getting along with other people? Interestingly, some young people rely on parents to be their plan. Parents then remind kids to do their daily tasks, get things done, and stay on track. This often increases tension between parents and young people. Parents don't want that role because they feel like they're nagging but they also see the need to get things done. One of the signs of maturity is to be able to manage yourself. In order to do that, you need a plan. How will you remember to do your responsibilities? You also will need some internal motivation instead of relying on externals like parental guidance to get through life. Some young people then over react and try to become so independent that they can't work with anyone but themselves. True maturity requires an inter-dependence, the ability to manage oneself but also to work with others in a cooperative way. That careful balance is a sign of true maturity.

A Parent's Prayer for Love

Father, I love you so much. And I experience your love for me in many ways. In fact, I'm learning a lot about love by being a parent myself. I need more. My selfishness can get in the way pretty quickly. In fact, I used to think that I was a pretty loving person until I had children. At times my love feels so strong toward my child, and other times I see selfishness in me in ways that I never realized. I need your supernatural love. Please show me how to look past myself and demonstrate love freely. I know that sometimes my firmness is a demonstration of my love, but it doesn't feel that way at times. Life sure is complicated. I know that you say that love covers a multitude of sins. Please help me demonstrate an overarching love for my child that is felt deep in the heart. I pray that the love I have for my child will allow me to hang in there in the tough times and to enjoy the pleasant times more. Most importantly I ask that you would show me how I can communicate your love to my child. Thank you. Amen.

Transferring Responsibility to the Child

Taking Notes During the Video

One of the pillars of a heart-based approach is to transfer responsibility to the child

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.
Psalm 19:14

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.
1 Corinthians 10:13

Billy's Anger Plan	
Billy	Ideas
1.	Do Say
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Principles to remember when using the T-Chart