

Lesson 4: Shaping the Defiant Will

1. Scripture encourages us to seek counsel from the wise (**Prov. 19.20; Titus 2.3-5**). Why do you think some younger parents reject it - preferring, instead, advice from peers or from sources that are opposed to God's wisdom?

2. There is no doubt that God instructs parents to inflict corporal punishment (spanking) upon children when they defy parental authority. Dr. Dobson nails it when he asks: "*Who is going to win? Who has the most courage? Who is in charge?*" That issue must be settled for if it isn't, your problems have just begun. If you can't control a toddler, get his attention, and earn his respect, what do you think will happen when the toddler becomes a teen?

3. You tell your two-year-old: "*Do not touch the remote control!*" You watch in amazement as he inches closer and closer to the object of his fascination. His hand reaches for the device while his eyes remain locked on yours. And then incredibly, he grabs it. And smiles. There is more going on than his desire to touch the remote control. What is really happening and what must be your response?

