

Wake Up To Reality

What to do

- Give your home an environmental checkout. Consider the environment that you live in now and how it got that way. Home should be a place where *everybody* has a comfort zone.
- Evaluate your *parenting skills* and style where you learned them. If you had a perfectionist parent, you're probably a *procrastinator*. If you're a parent, and you have the critical eye, you may have a kid who starts a lot of projects and doesn't finish them.
- Embrace the truth that parenting is one of life's greatest *privileges*, it's also life's greatest responsibilities.
- Consider, what are your children's *take aways* from your home? What do you want that to be like? Every kid's going to take away something, what do you want your kids to take away? Do you want a kid to be responsible someday, then teach them responsibility, et cetera.
- *Be careful* about threatening your kids. Often times threats do not work and they do not make sense. Plus, you do not or cannot follow through.

Your Home Should Be

A HOME WHERE everybody is respected and treated with love and affection, regardless of who brings home the bacon, or who's the star athlete or who gets the best grades.

A HOME WHERE encouragement is the order of the day. The simple words, "Hey, good job. Now you're getting it." That's real encouragement to kids all the way down the line. There's no place in the planet where a kid should get more of an emotional boost than in their home.

A HOME WHERE discipline is caught and taught. Everybody has boundaries. Even mom and dad have boundaries. They can't just live an undisciplined life.

Remember you don't have to see eye to eye with your kids to walk hand in hand.

Action Plans

MONDAY ACTION PLAN #1: Decide to change things - now! Say to yourself and your spouse if you're married, "Today is the day we're going to make the change. We're going to exercise our personal will to make some progress happen now."

MONDAY ACTION PLAN #2: Look for areas to clean up! Take an honest look at your home environment and realize it's time for some cleanup. Again, you will it into change. And you have to understand with kids, you have to say it once, turn your back and walk away.

MONDAY ACTION PLAN #3: See parenting as a privilege, not a chore! You're now going to agree that you see parenting as a privilege to be enjoyed and not a dreaded chore to be endured. It's not something you have to do, but somebody you get the privilege to parent.

MONDAY ACTION PLAN #4: Starting today, love, respect, encouragement, going the second mile, and giving the second chance will be the order of the day. You're going to provide top quality takeaway for your kids.