The Transforming Power of Love and Respect in the Family

‘The book people have been asking me to write for years’ - Eggerichs helps parents revolutionize their family dynamic, jump off of the Family Crazy Cycle once and for all with new book

Love & Respect in the Family: The Respect Parents Desire, The Love Children Need
Dr. Emerson Eggerichs

What is it?

Entirely new content - from one of the world’s most distinguished speakers and experts on communications and relationships - that will transform the way parents and children of all ages relate to and understand one another.

The Bible commands love and respect between parent and child (Exodus 20:12, Titus 2:4), just as it teaches love and respect between a husband and wife (Ephesians 5:33). But, make no mistake – Love & Respect in the Family: The Respect Parents Desire, The Love Children Need (W Publishing Group, Nov. 2013) is absolutely not a spin-off or repurposing of the popular marriage book.

What it is, is completely new… and the book people across the country have been asking Dr. Emerson Eggerichs to write for years. In essence, Eggerichs says, when they feel unloved, children react to parents in ways that feel disrespectful. When feeling disrespected, parents react to children in ways that feel unloving. Neither premeditate this negative reaction, but this is how each appears to the other and round and round it goes. It’s called the Family Crazy Cycle and this book helps families jump off of it.

Who Wrote it?

The Founder and President of Love and Respect Ministries, Dr. Emerson Eggerichs is an internationally-known public speaker and the bestselling author of Love and Respect: The Love She Most Desires, The Respect He Desperately Needs - a Gold Medallion, Retailer’s Choice and Family Christian Book of the Year Award winner, having sold over 1.5 million copies.
Why is it relevant?

A book helping families understand each other and communicate may be more relevant than ever before. Why? Because, despite our ability to communicate across dozens of platforms and devices, we're losing our ability to communicate. And, though dysfunction has always been a natural byproduct of growth and change in the family unit, families are perhaps more dysfunctional than ever before. With media and culture battling more fiercely than ever before for the minds and hearts of our children, understanding their needs and keeping open a channel of communication through which we can support, guide and love them is paramount.

Why he’s qualified to write it

As mentioned above, Eggerichs is not only an internationally-renowned speaker and the author of *Love and Respect: The Love She Most Desires, The Respect He Desperately Needs* - a Gold Medallion, Retailer’s Choice and Family Christian Book of the Year Award winner, having sold over 1.5 million copies - but has studied the family dynamic for more than 30 years as a counselor and pastor, having received his B.A. in Biblical Studies and an M.A. in Communications from Wheaton College and Graduate School. He was later awarded his Masters in Divinity from Dubuque Seminary and earned a Ph.D. from Michigan State University in Child and Family Ecology. He has served on the board of the National Center for Fathering, is on the board of the Michigan Family Forum and has served on the committee for Michigan’s Year of the Child and Family with the state’s Lieutenant Governor. Eggerichs was also the senior pastor of East Lansing Trinity Church for 19 years, during which time, the church grew from 450 to over 2,000 members.

Based on these three decades of scholarship, counseling and extensive scientific and biblical research, Dr. Eggerichs and his wife Sarah developed the Love & Respect Conference, through which they provide life-changing resources to over 50,000 married, divorced, separated, dating and single people, both live and by video each year. Groups they’ve spoken to include those from the NFL, PGA and members of congress.

He and Sarah have been married since 1973 and have three children.

How is it different than other books on parenting?

*This is the book people have been asking Eggerichs to write for years.*

*Brand new material, cover to cover.*

The fact that his own adult children speak into the content sets it apart, and that he waited 35 years to write it makes this unlike other parenting books. Also, because of the trauma of his own upbringing, he brings a different perspective than other authors, who may have had a more idyllic childhood.

The book seeks to answer: What does the Bible say to parents? Also, as a pastor, in a pastoral sense as opposed to an academic sense, Eggerichs has a penchant toward application, so the book is more than just lofty ideas—it’s practical.
Benefits to viewers, listeners, readers

If parents read and apply the principles in Love & Respect in the Family, they will be able to stop the crazy cycle of family conflict and begin to energize their children. How do we know? Because it’s biblically-based principles have been validated by the author’s grown children. Dr. Eggerichs waited 35 years before writing this book, so he could share his own journey – and so he could extend the opportunity for his family to add their input to these parenting concepts. This book includes the perspectives of both parents (Emerson and Sarah) and their three children (Jonathan, David, and Joy).

The book:

- Explains volumes of information about family dynamics in a simple way
- Provides a simple plan for parents to follow
- Validates the parent’s need for respect - particularly the father
- Explains how to deal with the feeling of being disrespected
- Explains the mindset of a child: children are typically not trying to be disrespectful but often are immature, selfish, or irresponsible
- Explains the child’s need for love and how to meet that need
- Shows the parent how to love when feeling disrespected
- Reveals the foundational reason to parent: to hear Christ say, "Well done!"
- Begins and ends with what the Bible says about parenting instead of using the Bible to justify what we want to say psychologically and sociologically
- Is ‘father friendly’, which mothers love
- Is both parent and child-focused
- Author waited to write the book until his adult children could speak to the things that I’m saying
- Writes about children from both his perspective/experience as a child and from that of parenting his own
- Includes the perspective of not only the author’s wife, but adult children

The book is also intentionally:

- Biblical: Eggerichs’ attempt at a systematic theology on parenting for the lay person
- Comprehensive: attempt made to rightly represent ALL the salient Scriptures to parents
- Practical: author has a penchant toward every day application; if it doesn’t make sense what’s the point in writing about it?
- Inspiring: author is a motivator and has tried to ignite a desire in the parent to act on this content
- Transparent: aims to give people encouragement and that comes when they see his own struggles

“I have looked at every passage dealing with parenting from Genesis to Revelation. I have addressed those major passages dealing with parenting. What disturbs me today is that some of us who have our academic credentials tend to bring our secular research into the church, but in order to sanctify the content, we go to the Bible after the fact and look for principles to reinforce what we want to say. Too often, those principles/passages have nothing to do with parenting. The author is not talking about parenting in the passages selected.”

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Talking points:
- Love, respect
- Relationships
- Family conflict resolution, including (but not limited to):
  - Dealing with the negative reactions from children and/or spouse
  - Motivating, meeting a child or spouse’s need(s)
  - How to handle an indifferent or unresponsive partner or child for those that feel hopeless in their relationships
- Childhood development
- Parenting
- Church leadership

Quotable:
- "With this book, we validate a parent’s feelings of being disrespected. This is huge, especially as relates to the father. I believe that when we say to a father that it is okay for him to feel disrespected and that there is nothing wrong with him, he relaxes and is more open to hearing what it is that God calls him to do. After telling him that his feelings are valid, we then can coach him on how to deal with the events in a way that does not lead to the Family Crazy Cycle. This is both a biblical and practical way of dealing with a phenomenon that we all know: the angry and offended father. Sadly, some have told fathers that they ought to grow up and step to the plate and do what they’re supposed to be doing and stop acting like a child in response to the child’s misbehavior. Long-term, this never works. We cannot dishonor and disrespect the man and motivate him to be loving. That’s comparable to being harsh and angry with a wife and then expecting her to want sex. We must understand what motivates another person to be teachable and willing to take another course of action."
- "With the best of my ability, when it comes to the Biblical topic of parenting, I have tried to be an ambassador for the kingdom of Christ. I believe that as a pastor – teacher, I have a responsibility to rightly represent Christ’s platform when it comes to marriage and parenting. I know that I have to give an account before Him on that final day, and I’m very aware of the fact that the apostle James says that those who teach will receive a stricter judgment. Thus, this is less about selling a bestseller and more about rightly representing the heart of Christ to parents. I happen to believe that when we honor Him, He will honor us.”
- "I have tried with great diligence and perseverance to rightly set forth what God has said to parents about their role - one reason that I waited until I was in my 60s before I wrote a book on this. Thus we see for instance, the acronym GUIDES. When looking at this acronym, one can see that I have tried to be as comprehensive as possible with what the Bible states to parents about their role. They are to give, understand, instruct, discipline, encourage, and supplicate. Each concept surfaces from a passage dealing with parenting. I started with the salient Scriptures and worked very hard to create a teaching technique/tool to enable parents to remember the content.”

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