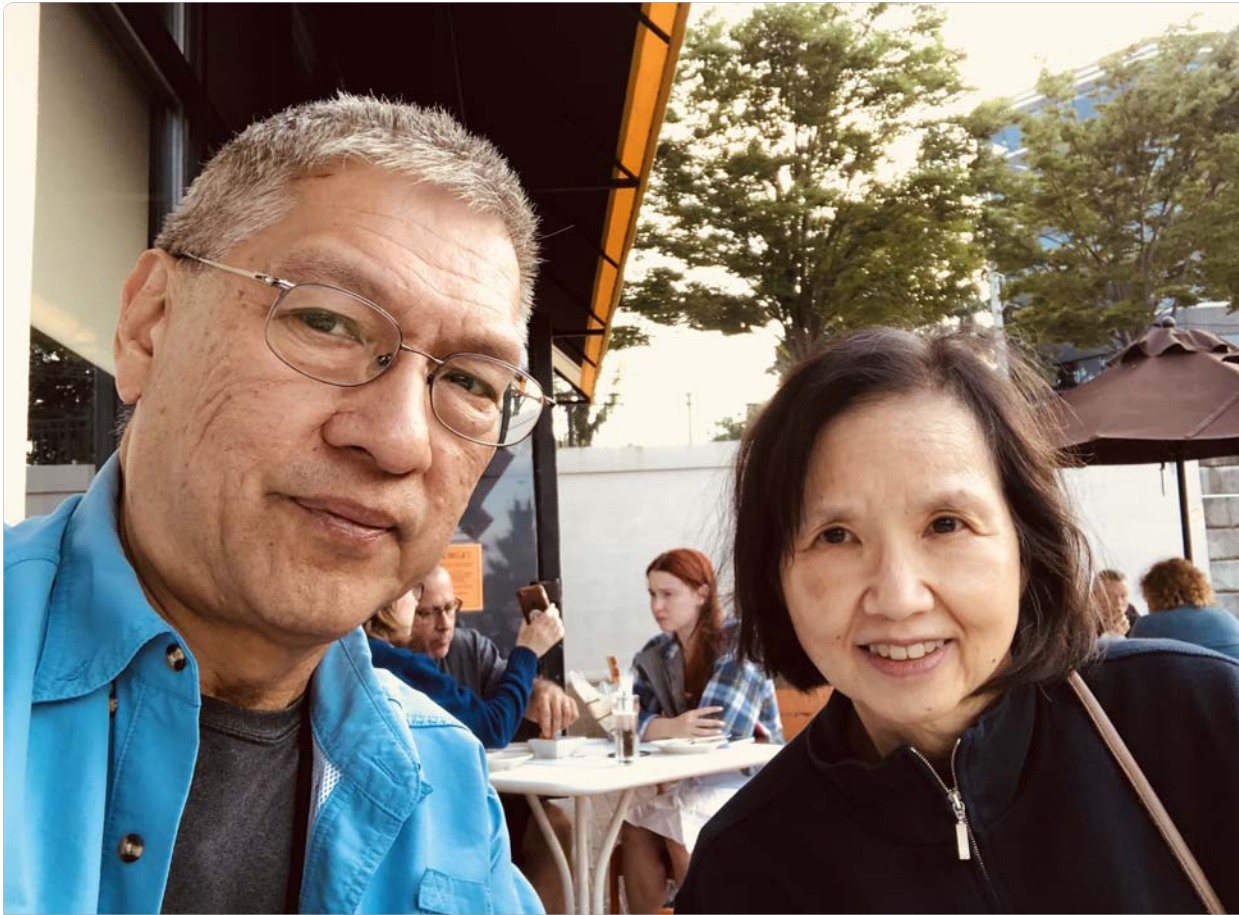


From Parenting to Mentorship

You and Your Adult Child

- Born and raised in Boston area by Toisanese immigrants
- Became a Christian through neighbors
- Went into FT after dedicating life to Christ in college
- Went to DTS
- Served in BCEC
- Retired in 2019

I. Introduction



My wife, Nancy, and I



My daughter, Stefanie, and family



My son, Matt, and fiancée

- I. Introduction
- II. The Goal of Parenting
- III. Looking Back: Ten Commandments of Parenting
- IV. Dealing with Regrets
- V. Moving Forward: Precepts for Parenting Adult Children
- VI. Conclusion

The Overview

II. The Goal of Parenting

- " And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man."
- Luke 2:52 ESV

**Mental, Physical, Spiritual, Social
Growth**

- “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”
- Eph 6:4

Emphasis on Spiritual Growth

- “Successful parenting is the rightful, God ordained loss of control. The goal of parenting is to work ourselves out of a job. The goal of parenting is to raise children who were once totally dependent on us to be independent, mature people who, with reliance on God and proper connectedness to Christian community, are able to stand on their own two feet.”

From Paul Tripp

- “The goal of parenting is to glorify God by helping my children grow up to become mature adults who love God and love their neighbor. (or to become like Christ).”

From Steven Chin

- “God didn’t give you your children to build your reputation but to publicly proclaim His.”

From Parenting by Paul Tripp

Ten Commandments for Parents

II. Looking Back

1. Love your spouse

It is important, It is takes priority, It takes time.

- 25 Husbands, love your wives,
just as Christ loved the church
and gave himself up for her

Eph 5:25

2. Love your child unconditionally

- Make sure your love is unconditional.
- Make sure you communicate the love so they understand it.

- 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 5:8

- Words of Affirmation
- Quality Time
- Gifts
- Service
- Physical Touch

*From The Five Love Languages,
by Gary Chapman*

**3. Spend time with
your child**

- Quality
Time

- Quantity of
Time

Children need both

- 4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.
- 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.
- 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.
- 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deut 6:4-7

- “....approximately 85 percent of a person’s ultimate personality is formed by the time he is six years old.” (p. 3,4)

From Christian Child Rearing and Personality Development by Paul Meier

4. Discipline without exasperating

- 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

- ESV

Eph 6:4

4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children;
instead, bring them up in the training and
instruction of the Lord.

NIV

Eph 6:4

- Train by Action

- Train by Words

Discipline* and Instruction
***Training**

Over Discipline

Under Discipline

Two Ways We Can Exasperate

- “Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.”

Proverbs 13:24

- ¹³ And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.

1 Samuel 3:13 (ESV)

5. Show approval to
your child

- "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

6. . Instill spiritual values

It is parent's role primarily.

- 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

- ESV

Eph 6:4

Informally

Formally

Teach Spiritual Values

- “⁷You must teach them [God’s commandments] to your children and talk about them when you are at home or out for a walk; at bedtime and the first thing in the morning.

Deut. 6:7 LB

**7. Guard your child
against the world**

- “Don’t let the world squeeze you into its own mold...”

Romans 12:2 Philippians

8. Do not overprotect
your child

- ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Rom 12:2

**Teach them to discern
using God's word.**

9. Be a good model

- Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.
- ESV

1 Cor 11:1

10. Pray for your child

- Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.
- ESV

Ps 127:1

- 9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment,
- ESV

Phil 1:9

IV. Dealing with Regrets

- ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

- ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 (ESV)

- ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

James 5:16 (ESV)

- ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13–14 (ESV)

Precepts for Parents of Adult Children

V. Moving Forward

**1. Change your role
from Parent to Mentor.**

- ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24 (ESV)

- **11** When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

1 Corinthians 13:11 (ESV)

- Children are Wet Cement

Book by Anne Ortland

**2. Be a good model
especially of humility and
confession.**

- Not just in sins to avoid but positive acts in loving God and loving your neighbor.

Be a good model

3. Reprioritize your spiritual and marital relationships, over your parental ones.

- ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Ephesians 4:25–28 (ESV)

- ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:29–32 (ESV)

- ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:18–21 (ESV)

4. Avoid offering advice unless you are asked. It will be seen as criticism.

“Keep your mouth shut and the welcome mat out.”

- **19** Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

James 1:19 (ESV)

5. Nagging, yelling, and shaming are ineffective and will drive your adult children away.

Trust that experience will be a better teacher.

6. Don't always bail out your children, so they can learn the consequences of their actions.

Parable of the Prodigal Son
Luke 15:11-32

- ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Galatians 6:7 (ESV)

7. Have a boundary plan for independence and responsibilities with clear expectations.

**8. Build bridges with
your adult children.**

**9. Accept that singleness
may be God's will for your
child.**

- ⁸ To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am.

1 Corinthians 7:8 (ESV)

- ³² I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³ But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife,

1 Corinthians 7:32–33 (ESV)

**10. Pray for yourself and
for your adult children.**

- ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

James 1:5 (ESV)

- **The Parable of the Persistent Widow**

- **18** And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.
² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man.
³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.'
⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man,
⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.' "

Luke 18:1–5 (ESV)

- ⁶ And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Luke 18:6-8 (ESV)

Question and Answer