

Bringing Others Closer

Description

Matthew 23:13-22.

Children, especially your own, have a way of calling out hypocrisy. We do not allow the word “stupid” to be used in our house. My older son has heard that lots of times; he knows that we do not use that word. One day, I was frustrated at our dog, who was barking at the neighbor checking their mail. In frustration, I called the dog stupid. My son immediately said, “Mom, we do not say that in this house.” He was entirely correct. I apologized to him, prayed, and asked for forgiveness, grace, and patience to do better.

The people in our families, the people we interact with at church, school, and work, are paying attention. They are hearing what we are saying, singing, and even preaching. They are reading what we are posting, liking, and sharing. They are watching how we treat others, how we react to stress and frustration. They are seeing where we are saying one thing and doing something else.

With every interaction, we should be bringing others closer to Christ. We should be showing people the way through the door toward a relationship with Christ, not shutting it in their faces.

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