

FAMILY MATTERS: INVESTING IN THE THINGS THAT LAST

SURVIVING THOSE CHALLENGING YEARS

PROVERBS 1:8–11, 15; 9:10–11; 12:1; 24:3–4



The Heart of the Matter

Rights: we all have them, and we all love to claim them. Teenagers who are well past the hatching stage but not quite ready to leave the nest especially love to claim their rights. And when the rights of teens clash with the rights of parents, the nest invariably becomes messy. So how do parents who want to parent with wisdom, understanding, and knowledge maintain a relatively peaceful home when everyone is claiming their rights? And how do teens who want to try out their wings keep from jumping out of the nest too soon? The answer is simple, though rarely easy: surrender.



Discovering the Way

1. Overall Guideline for Parents to Remember (Proverbs 24:3–4)

When parents add wisdom, understanding, and knowledge to the right mixture of love, discipline, and consistency, they have a better chance of building or rebuilding strong families.

2. Specific Principles for Teenagers to Ponder (Proverbs 1:8–11, 15; 9:10–11; 12:1; 24:3–4)

When teenagers add wisdom, understanding, and knowledge to the right mixture of respect, honor, and obedience, they can make their homes more enjoyable.

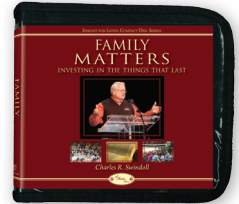


Starting Your Journey

Teenagers, your difficulty is surrendering your rights, your desire to go your own way, while living under your parents' roof—obey without arguing. Parents, your difficulty is surrendering your rights to maintain ultimate control of your growing children—learn to release without fear.



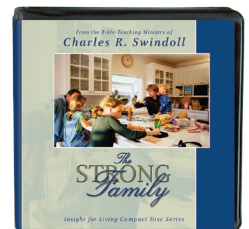
Tools for Digging Deeper



**Family Matters:
Investing in the
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