

**WEEK FOUR****MATTHEW 28:19-20**

Jesus tells His disciples to go and tell everyone, everywhere that He is alive.

**REMEMBER THIS:**

"I am alive for ever and ever!"
REVELATION 1:18, NIV

**SAY THIS:**

Who is alive?
JESUS IS ALIVE.

**DO THIS:**

While bathing your child, sing the following to the tune of "Pop Goes The Weasel": "Jesus went away one day. His friends began to cry. Then on day three, Jesus came back! Jesus is alive!"

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BASIC TRUTH:

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.

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HOW TO RAISE A JERK

By Reggie Joiner

Most parents don't set out to raise kids who become jerks. But parenting kids who have a mind of their own can be confusing.

Some people say too many who work hard at building children's self-esteem are raising kids who will exhibit a lifestyle of entitlement and egotism. Other specialists say those who talk about children being innately bad are raising a generation that feels inferior and insignificant. Every expert has an opinion and it's hard to know where the line actually is. Many promote their agenda by pushing the opposing opinion to the extreme.

One of the keys to parenting with balance is helping your children develop an attitude of humility. Every child has the potential to grow up and understand why it's important to "put others first." There is just a fine line between raising kids who have a healthy self-esteem and kids who are too egotistical.

A life of arrogance that goes unchecked can result in a sad and lonely existence for someone, and frankly there are enough self-centered people around. How does someone develop an overinflated sense of self-worth and entitlement?

Here are a few ideas to help you can unintentionally but effectively raise a jerk:

- Keep them away from anyone who thinks differently than they do.
- Try to give them everything they want.
- Tell them over and over again you just want them to be happy.
- Convince them that they are more special than other kids.
- Always take their side when they get in trouble with their teacher at school.
- Always take their side whenever they are in a conflict with a friend.
- Keep insisting that they are the best player on the team.
- Don't give them consistent opportunities to help or serve other people.
- Never require them to do chores.
- Reinforce their prejudices about people from different cultures or backgrounds.
- Make your relationship with them more important than your relationship with your spouse.
- Rarely express genuine gratitude to those who help you.
- Teach them to talk more than they listen.
- Never let them hear you say "I was wrong. I am sorry."

Maybe you can add a few ideas of your own . . . on how to raise a jerk.

- Protect them from the consequences of their own mistakes.
- Make sure you do whatever they can do for themselves.

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