

# Parenting: Establishing Authority

## Session 4 | Limiting Freedoms & Creating Structure

### 2 Big Ideas:

1. Children must learn to ask for permission.
2. It is OK to say No!

### Ideas for Freedom and Structure

*Sleeping*

*Speech*

*Playtime*

*TV and Video*

*Eating*

*Cleaning*

## What is Appropriate with Discipline?

Make sure your expectations are clear, so when lines are crossed you can move forward with your child.

## Do You Idolize Your Children?

“Parenting highlights and exposes the heart [of a parent].”

## You Are Not the Same as Your Spouse

You must spend time talking about what you think, what you feel, and what you believe.

## Discussion Questions

1. What are some ways you can tell if your children really are willing to come under your authority?
2. How have you determined your child's bedtime?
3. What are some ways you have limited freedoms with your young children? Where might they have too much freedom? Discuss as a group.
4. What structures do you have in place to provide boundaries for your children?
5. Where have you or should you create some flexibility for your children?
6. In what ways do you think you may have idolized your children? What is a way you can know when you have done this? How will this derail your ability to parent your children in a God-honoring way?
7. What is one area of your parenting where you need some support and encouragement?
8. What is one big "take-away" you have from this class?