



Be a Peacemaker.
Transform Your Relationships.™



Bringing Relational Wisdom Into Your Family

Relational Wisdom® 360

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BRINGING RELATIONAL WISDOM® INTO YOUR FAMILY

Enhance your marriage and equip your entire family with skills that strengthen relationships, deepen trust, reduce conflict and enable you to build a safe and peaceful home.

PDF AT RW360.ORG/SA-FAMILY

DAILY RELATIONAL CHALLENGES IN THE FAMILY

Families are built on marital and parenting relationships that provide joy and security and prepare the next generation for life. When these relationships are healthy, families thrive. But when parents and children lack constructive relational skills, daily interactions can trigger painful relational challenges:

- Misunderstandings that spiral into recurring arguments
- Sibling rivalry, screen-time battles and homework stress
- Financial pressure that fuels conflict
- Co-parenting disagreements and blended-family tensions
- Workplace stress spilling out at home
- Caring for aging parents while balancing work and home

TRANSFORM YOUR WORKPLACE

As you strengthen your family's relational skills, you can build a home marked by love, trust, grace and resilience. Relational Wisdom enables you to:

- Build a **stronger and more intimate marriage**
- **Manage emotions** so conversations stay constructive
- **Get upstream of conflict** with win-win problem solving
- Restore relationships with **confession and forgiveness**
- Make it **safe for children to discuss emotions**
- Promote better **listening, empathy and understanding**
- **Build resilient bonds** that weather change, loss and stress
- Teach your children relational skills that **improve academic success and strengthen future friendships and marriages**

SUPPORTING STUDIES

Multiple studies reveal the value of relational skills training in the family.

- [Emotional Intelligence for Marriage and Parenting](#)
- [Emotional Intelligence for Teens](#)
- [Emotional Intelligence for College and Beyond](#)
- [Relational Wisdom Strengthens Both Families and Businesses](#)

SET AN INSPIRING EXAMPLE

In 1 Timothy 4:15, the Apostle Paul gave his young protégé some life changing advice: *“Practice these things, immerse yourselves in them so that all may see your progress.”*

Modeling is the most effective way to teach relational skills and to set the stage for sharing the gospel (1 Cor. 11:1; John 13:35).

The first step in this modeling process (and often the hardest step!) is to humbly acknowledge that there is room for you to improve your relational skills. Admitting your weakness and room for growth will make it easier for your spouse to do the same. It will also set an example for your children. When they see your humility and commitment to change, it will be easier for them to follow in your footsteps.

The next step in this process is to invite your spouse to join you pursuing one RW360's foundational courses:

- [Discovering Relational Wisdom](#) (10-12 hours)
- [Relational Peacemaking](#) (12-14 hours)

You can take these courses in either order. If your conflict has been dealing with quite a bit of conflict, you may want to start with Relational Peacemaking. If your main goal is to improve communication, increase empathy and deep your relationships, then Discovering Relational Wisdom would be the place to start.

- Hint: one way to launch this training commitment is to tie the invitation to a special occasion, offering the course as an anniversary, birthday, valentine or Christmas gift. It's a gift that will keep on give the rest of your marriage life!

What if your spouse isn't interested in this training? Start the course yourself. As God works through this training to improve your relational skills and change your behavior in noticeable ways, you can pray that he will begin to help your spouse see a need for similar growth and inspire him or her to join you on this journey.

Until that happens, focus primarily on improving your own relational skills. When you see ways you failed to relate well in the past, admit your past failures to your spouse and indicate how you want to change in the future. God can use this kind of humility to pull down walls between you and your spouse and trigger a hunger for similar growth.

When you begin to study together, make a commitment to complete one lesson a week on your own time and to then meet over a cup of coffee or a meal to discuss things you are learning and new skills you want to develop. This commitment will make you accountable to keep you moving ahead in the course and give each of you the benefit of the other person's insights, prayers and encouragement.

BRING RELATIONAL WISDOM TO YOUR CHILDREN

RW360 has developed several resources that families can use to reduce conflict and strengthen relationships, while simultaneously equipping their children with relational skills that improve academic performance, promote healthy friendships, enhance future

job performance and career advancement and deepen their ability to build stable, life-long marriages.

- The [Young Peacemaker Curriculum](#) is designed primarily for 3rd through 7th grades, but many parents have used it successfully with [preschool](#) children.
- [Discovering Relational Wisdom](#) is an 8-lesson online course that both parents and older children can use to learn a God-centered, biblically grounded, gospel-driven form of emotional intelligence that enables them to deepen their relational skills and “get upstream of conflict.”
- [Relational Peacemaking](#) is a 12-lesson course that teaches principles of conflict resolution.
- Both courses have been promoted by many family-oriented organizations, including **Focus on the Family**, **Veritas Press**, **Classical Conversations** and the **Homeschool Legal Defense Association**. Normally priced at \$49/person (for groups), they are available to students at a [50% discount](#).

[Preparing Children for Life](#) provides a further perspective on the benefits of teaching relational wisdom and peacemaking to your children. As your entire family develops these skills, you can experience seven major benefits:

- Develop the habit of engaging your children with the gospel rather than condemnation (see [Penetrating Barriers](#))
- Diminish the regrets that result from losing patience and speaking harshly toward your children (see [Four Ways to Defeat Hijacking](#)).
- Respond with compassion instead of judgment when your children make foolish choices (see [Spanglish](#) and [The Compassionate Boxer](#))
- Avoid the grief of [raising emotionally stunted boys](#).
- Model empathy and thoughtfulness in your marriage (see [Why Scare My Wife?](#))
- Prepare children to launch into college with relational skills that will enhance their academic performance (see [EI for College and Beyond](#), [Overcoming Artificial Maturity with Relational Wisdom](#)).
- Enable your teens to develop relational skills that will not only improve their future job performance and career advancement (see [EI in the Workplace](#) and [RW Strengthens Both Families and Businesses](#)) but also add a “*Certificate in Enhanced Emotional Intelligence*” to their resumes, which will improve their ability to secure scholarships and land their dream jobs.¹



¹ A [growing number of employers](#), including Amazon, FedEx, IBM, General Electric, Mayo Clinic, Microsoft and Starbucks, have seen that EI training makes their employees more productive, so they are emphasizing EI screening and training during the recruitment process. As a result, college students with emotional intelligence training on their resumes will have an advantage over competing applicants and have a greater chance of landing their dream jobs and excelling in their careers.

Transformed Pamphlet

RW360's [Transformed Pamphlet](#) is one of the simplest and most powerful tools families can use to begin weaving the principles of relational wisdom and peacemaking into their daily lives. These pamphlets may be purchased through RW360's Bookstore, and the related free Bible study can be downloaded through [this link](#).

Age of Students

Discovering Relational Wisdom and Relational Peacemaking are interactive online courses that parents and older children can take together. Although the key principles and demonstration videos are simple enough for [ten-year-olds to understand](#), we suggest that parents register themselves for the course and go through a couple of lessons to decide which of their children are mature enough to benefit from this training.

The most productive way to take a course is for each parent and child to register for the course so they can work through the videos, quizzes and web-based exercises themselves. Each person needs to register with his or her own email address.

Children who are too young to work through the course on their own can instead sit and observe with one of their parents or siblings as they work through the videos and application exercises. Parents can also lead younger students through the [Young Peacemaker Curriculum](#), which teaches many of the same principles taught in the adult Relational Peacemaking course.

Daily RW Reminders

RW360 has compiled a list of over 150 short "Relational Hero" video clips you can access on [this page](#). These videos illustrate the life-changing impact of exercising emotional intelligence altruistically. "Altruistically" means acting in a way that shows unselfish concern for the welfare of others, often at a personal cost or sacrifice. It implies a motivation to help others without expecting anything in return. Essentially, it's the opposite of being selfish or self-centered.

You can easily use these videos to inspire kind, compassionate and responsible behavior in your family. As you gather for a meal, simply show one of these two-to-three-minute videos and ask your children these types of questions: (1) What did you like about this video? (2) What emotions did you observe in this video? (3) What values did this story illustrate? (4) How did the main characters' actions impact others? (5) When have you seen another person act this way, and how did it impact others? (6) How would our family be different if we all learned to act this way?

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES

- [Bring Relational Wisdom into Your Workplace](#)
- [Bring Relational Wisdom into your Church and Community](#)

If you have any questions about these resources or how to use them in your personal life, workplace or church, please contact RW360 at mail@rw360.org or 406-294-6806.