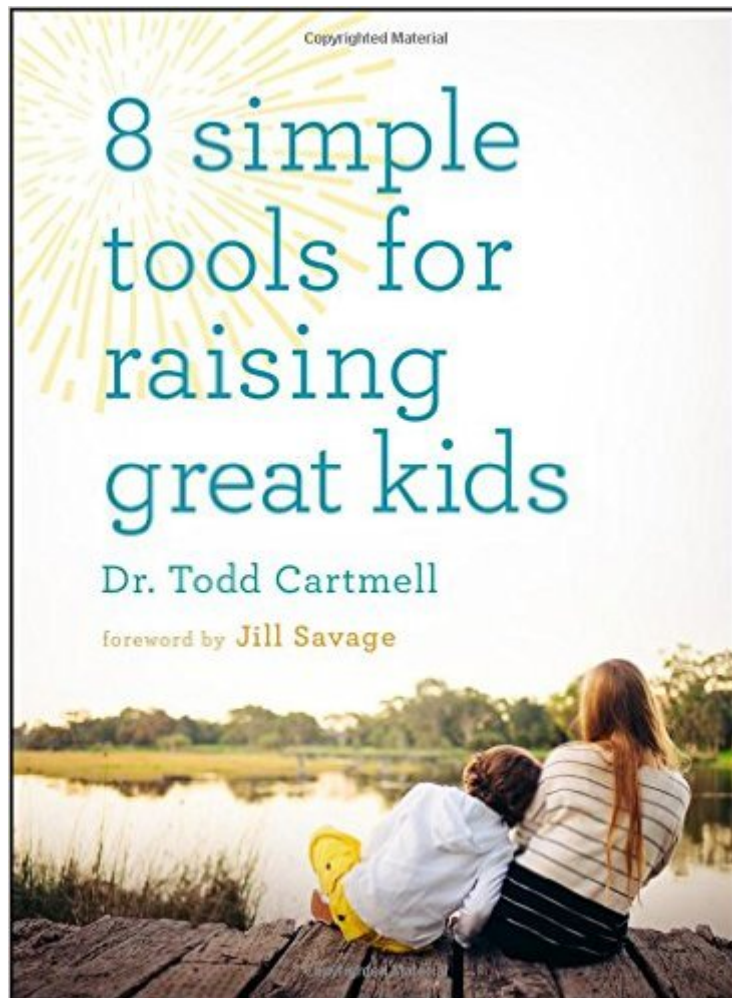


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# 8 Simple Tools For Raising Great Kids



## Synopsis

Finally, a practical book for busy parents! Whether you find parenting intuitive or impossible, we could all use a hand here and there. And we could use it quick! In *8 Simple Tools*, a child psychologist and father Todd Cartmell walks you through the nuts and bolts of healthy, effective parenting. Using examples from his home and 20 years of professional practice, Todd gives eight essential and practical tools to help you: Listen well and respond wisely Use affirmation to influence your child Develop a nurturing home culture Correct behavior in lasting ways Maintain a healthy relationship with your child Designed with busy parents in mind, *8 Simple Tools* breaks each tool into five short chapters, perfect for when you only have a second. Plus, each chapter ends with a practical "Tip" section that summarizes the main point and helps you apply it right away. Use even half of the tools in your parenting, and your family dynamics will thrive. Your relationship will be built on love and trust, providing you with fertile ground for planting God's wisdom in your child's heart and, ultimately, seeing your child flourish.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm always looking for tools and techniques to be a better parent because I never find that I'm parenting as well as I would like to. Sometimes, it's great to get perspectives from an expert. So, when I had the opportunity to review *8 Simple Tools for Raising Great Kids*, I was looking forward to the opportunity to learn from an expert. In this book, Dr. Todd Cartmell outlines 8 tools that parents have in dealing with their children to help build their relationship and to increase

their effectiveness in parenting. Each tool is broken into five short and simple chapters of mini-tips that allow practical ways to develop this tool in your parenting strategy. For example, in the section on encouraging, there is a short chapter on pointing out positive behavior as well as a section short chapter on pointing out the positive trait that is behind the positive behavior. This allows you to go through and add these behaviors one small, doable step at a time until you are consistently doing most or all forty of the tips that Cartmell describes in the book. The chapters are also loaded with examples from his patients and his own parenting journey of how these tips play out in real life, and I think this is a really practical and easy to understand book for parents. I also think that each of the tools are manageable for all parents to put into practice if they focus on just one tip at a time. Despite all the good things about this book, however, I had one area of disappointment. Even though Cartmell references scripture and applies scriptural principles in areas of the book, I would have to say that this book is more a work of psychology with the blending of a few Biblical principles thrown in.

MY REVIEW When I had my first child back in 1996 (yeah, I still can't believe he's 19 now!), my mother presented me with the book she had used as gospel for how baby's first days should go. It was written sometime in the 1950's. If I remember correctly, there was an hour-by-hour breakdown of how baby's first day home should go. I tried to accept the gift graciously, but I fear I failed in that perspective. If *8 Simple Tools for Raising Great Kids* by Dr. Todd Cartmell had been around then, I would have definitely had that one on my shelf. Granted, it's not about infant care, but it would have been SO valuable for the ensuing years. I had many successes, and quite the number of failures as well. My oldest son, now 19, has (as far as I can remember) never rolled his eyes and said, "Gee, Mom, embarrass me in front of my friends, why don't you," when hugging him in public. On the other hand, recently my 13 year old daughter asked what we have to eat. I told her I thought there were hot dogs in the refrigerator. We went out and checked. There were no hot dogs in sight. She turned to me and said, "Don't ever lie to me again." Yeah. I did not handle the disrespect in a productive manner. But later, we had a long talk and things got better between us. So, even though I've been a parent for almost 20 years now, and my children are older, there are still things I have to learn about parenting and building relationships with my children. 'Dr. Todd' writes about 8 tools to make relationships with our children better.

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