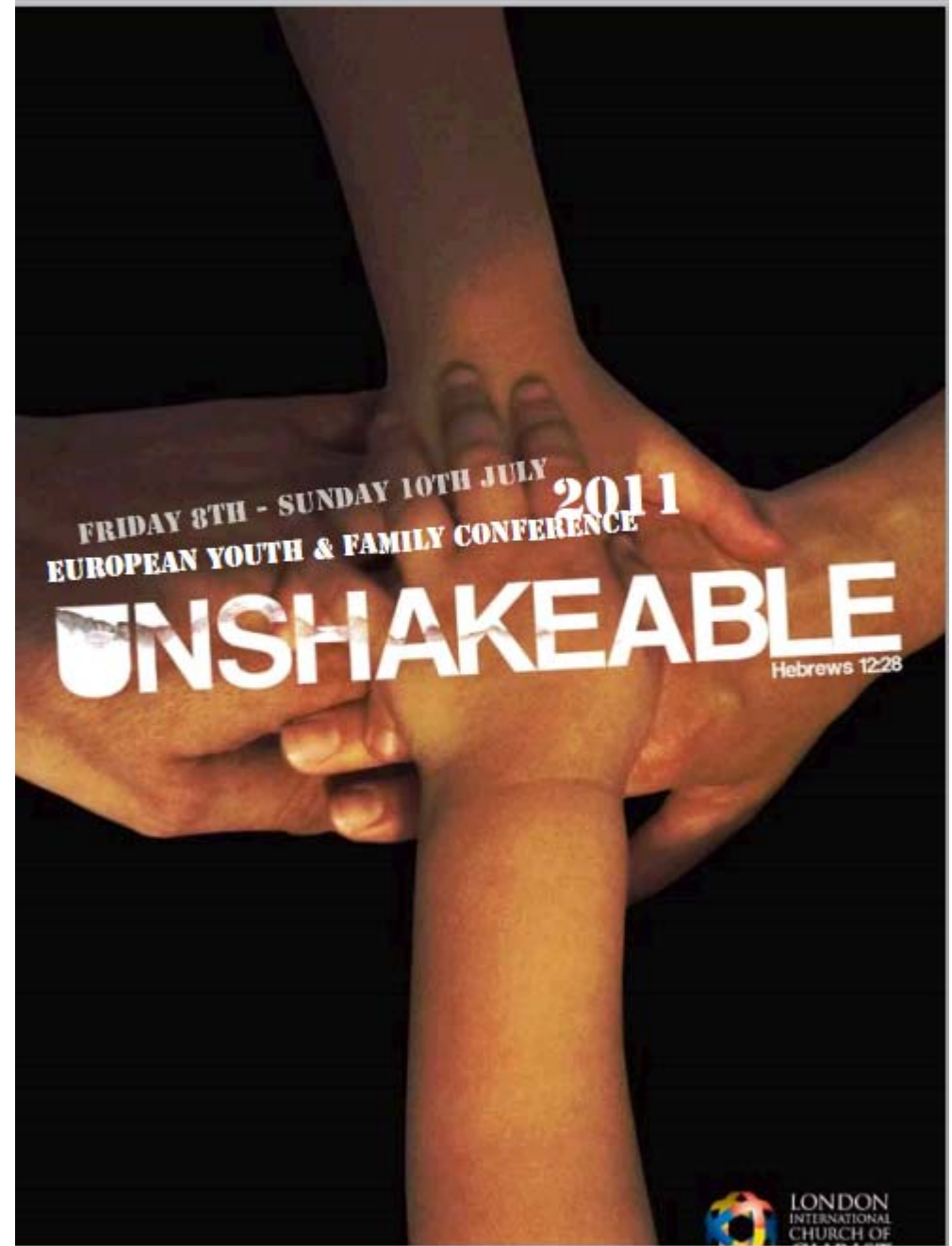


# Seeds of Faith

## Teaching the Young Ones

Andrew & Rhoda Agerbak  
"Unshakeable" Conference  
9 July 2011





## Godly men with tragic families

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David →

- Amnon incest with Tamar
- Absalom seizes thrown
- Solomon goes astray at the end of his life →
  - Rehoboam alienate the people and divides the kingdom

Lot → Incest with daughters whilst drunk

Adam → Cain murders Abel

Samuel → “You are old and your sons do not walk in your ways”  
(tragic because he saw Eli fail to lead his sons...)

## Of course there are good examples too!

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Eunice (single mother?) → Timothy

Elkanah & Hannah → Samuel

Joseph & Mary → Jesus

Zechariah & Elizabeth → John the Baptist

# But only a few who helped multiple generations be faithful

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**Abraham** →

Isaac →

Jacob →

Joseph

# What was special about Abraham as a parent?

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## God says

"For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."

Genesis 18:19

# Agenda

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- 1. You are the Parent**
- 2. Obedience is the foundation**
- 3. Train their hearts**
- 4. Make the scriptures come to life**

# 1. You are the parent

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“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord”.

Ephes. 6:4



## 2. Obedience is the foundation

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Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honour your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise-- "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Ephes. 6:1-3

# Obedience - practicals

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**Start early! They understand more than you think**

**Clear instructions, clear consequences**

**Tone of voice. Train yourself to have different tones**

- Request: “Can you please help me with this?”
- Command: “Come here, now!”
- Warning/Alarm: “Stop!!!”

**Gentle pressure, relentlessly applied**

- Small number of rules, but ruthless with consistency

**Consequences tailored to child**

### 3. Train their hearts

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Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction;  
pay attention and gain understanding.

I give you sound learning,  
so do not forsake my teaching.

When I was a boy in my father's house,  
still tender, and an only child of my mother,  
he taught me and said,

"Lay hold of my words with all your heart;  
keep my commands and you will live.

Proverbs 4:1-4

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Proverbs 4:23

## 4. Bring the scriptures to life

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Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Deut. 6:4-9

## Mealtime devotional ideas

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“One picture's worth” (John and Kim Scott) - verses with pictures

"God and Me" – 365 daily devotions (Penny Boshoff)

Scripture for a week - Mon/Tue: talk about what it means to us as parents; Wed / Thu talk about what it means for them as kids; Fri/Sat memorise. Reward at end of the week for memorising the scripture.

Read through a gospel - half a chapter a day.

"Swords": read a verse and guess book / chapter. If wrong, read next verse...

Bible Q&A on something topical / on their hearts

Character studies

## Isaac was used to seeing his father sacrifice to God

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Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Genesis 22:7

## Suggested reading

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- Raising Awesome Kids - Reloaded - Sam & Geri Laing
- What the Bible says about parenting - John MacArthur
- Shepherding a Child's Heart - Ted Tripp
- The new six-point plan for raising Happy, Healthy Children - John Rosemond
- Parenting by the Book - John Rosemond
- The Quiver - Doug & Vicki Jacoby
- Raising Godly Tomatoes <http://www.raisinggodlytomatoes.com>

# Agenda

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- 1. You are the Parent**
- 2. Obedience is the foundation**
- 3. Train their hearts**
- 4. Make the scriptures come to life**