

Make Children Aware of Your Knowledge of Their Wrong Doing **52**

Sometimes children will do things that don't deserve discipline, and a parent is inclined just to ignore it. But the child should always be made aware of the fact that the parent knows about his or her wrongdoing. If not, the child may think he's gotten away with something and the next time could be tempted to do something worse.

Simply get the child alone and say, "Now I want you to understand something: I know that you took an extra cola and drank it when I told you, you could have only one. I'm not going to spank you for it, but I want you to know that I do know it. And the next time you won't get off this easy."

The same holds true with people who work for you. Someone in your employment may do something that wasn't exactly right, but it wasn't bad enough to discipline him about it. However, in a nice, kind way, he should be made aware of your knowledge of the fact.

More than once in my life I've said to individuals, "Now I instructed you to do such-and-such a thing several weeks ago. And when the work came back through, it wasn't exactly like I told you to do it. It's no major thing, but the next time, be sure you do it exactly like I asked you to." This way the employee is aware that nothing is getting by you, and it will help him or her to be a better employee.