

# Emra Expressions

## The Ripples of Life

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Every where we go we are asked the same two questions:

- "Where were you 25 years ago when I needed you?"
- "Can you help me?"

The answer to the first question is, we are here now and it is never to late. The answer to the second is, yes!

Seldom do people ask me, "What makes this parenting thing so important?"

My answer is - no one can plan on the ripples!

I think about Lorna. Foul mouthed, playing on the edges of a gang, always ready to fight anyone over anything. At 12 years old she was societies problem, not a problem for the future but one that was already happening!

We loved her, showed her that there was a better way and helped her through some very difficult years with come very consistent discipline.

Years later she said to me, "You were the parents I didn't have."

She and her husband have moved out of the gang infested neighborhood and now live in Nevada. Her four kids are doing well in school, Church and with their friends - who spend a lot of time hearing about "life is full of choices" in Lorna's backyard.

This parenting thing is important to me because I am watching society raise a generation of kids who are developing a fatalistic viewpoint, an entitlement mentality and a victimization mindset. These negative effects are also ripples!

Lorna has stopped those negative ripples in her family and her neighborhood.

Because of your support through prayer and financial giving we have seen this sharpen over and over again! We have seen God at work in the lives we have touched. God then works in the lives they touch. And like the proverbial stone thrown in the lake - the ripples keep expanding!!!


We can begin these positive ripples in your church. Call or write us!

In His grip,



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for John and Sheryl Emra

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### Answered Prayers

*Sally is recovering well and while John is exhausted doing both the household and the ministry. He is focused on the end of this very difficult time.*

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*Sheryl and I have chosen September and October to lead a Sunday School Class at Rowlett United Methodist Church. We will be using the principles of Life Is Full Of Choices to talk about the Biblical Concept of Parenting.*

### Prayer Requests

*Rowlett UMC is talking about combining some Sunday School Classes for the Parenting Training. This would be a great way to connect with more people. Pray that Gods will is done in making this choice.*

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*Pray for the opening of SAY Yes! Centers in the Churches of the Dallas area.*

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*Pray that we will connect with Pastors who are open to talking about the kids in their community and how to better reach them for the Kingdom.*