

ON PARENTING

Whenever your kids are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to his kids. After creating heaven and earth God created Adam and Eve. And the first thing he said was 'don't.' "Don't eat the forbidden fruit,' God said.

"Forbidden fruit? We got forbidden fruit? Hey Eve, we've got forbidden fruit.' "No way,' says Eve. 'Yes way,' says Adam. "Don't eat that fruit,' said God. "Why?' they ask. "Because I am your father and I said so.' And God wondered why he hadn't stopped after making elephants.

A few minutes later God saw his kids having an apple break and he was pretty angry. 'Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?' the first Parent asked. "Uh huh,' said Adam. "Then why did you?' 'I dunno," Eve answered. "She started it." Adam said. "Did not.' "Did too." "DID NOT."

Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own. Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed. But there is reassurance in this story.

If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give them some wisdom and they haven't taken it don't be hard on yourself. If God had trouble handling children, what makes you think it would be a piece of cake for you?

Anon