Genesis 4:8

Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

I have two older sisters and we all have the same things that we like and dislike, including movies, certain foods and music. But on the other hand, all three of us are different. It has nothing to do with them being girls and me a guy, because even my two sisters are different from one another in their ways as well.

Now I know that people will tend to blame their upbringing, ok, their parents, for their failures and even accomplishments. I do agree that some of it does have to do with how you are brought up. Studies shows over the years that a true Christian based home brings up better people in society. I say true Christian, meaning those who live the Christian life and not those who claim to be Christians, but don't walk the Christian walk.

But still, even in the Christian family there are those who go astray and never return. Just as there are those who are not raised in a Christian family, that do turn from the sinful lifestyle that they were raised in and wholeheartedly follow the Lord.

You want more proof that you can't always blame it on your parents? How about today's devotional verse? *Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.*

Now, as far as we know, there are only four people on the earth at this time. Adam, Eve his wife and their two sons Cain and Abel. Adam and Even walked with and talked with God even after the fall. Now how could you not tell your kids how you walked with and talked with God. I mean we even read that God spoke with Cain.

> ✝ **Genesis 4:9** *Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"*

So Cain knew who God was. So you, if you are reading this, it's very likely that you know Who God is and you even know about God, But still that does not keep you from falling into sin, and when we do (Because we all fall into sin) we should not be looking for a scapegoat, which is something or someone to blame for our own actions.

Those who are wondering what a scapegoat is, it is actually from the bible:

> ✝ **Leviticus 16:6-10** *Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering, which is for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his house. He shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat. And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD'S lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering. But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat shall be presented alive*

before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, and to let it go as the scapegoat into the wilderness.

But we have no scapegoat, we need to be responsible for our own actions, and if you have been doing it, it's time to stop blaming your parents, your spouse, your siblings, your dog or whoever for your sinful actions. God will not pardon you because your parents didn't raise you right.

God even said:

✟ **Deuteronomy 24:16 (NLT)** *Parents must not be put to death for the sins of their children, nor children for the sins of their parents. Those deserving to die must be put to death for their own crimes.*

We all love this next verse:

✟ **1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Yet so many people will interpret it to say, "If we make excuses for our sins" Nowhere in the bible does God ever say to give Him a reason or excuses as to why you sinned. Nope, He simply says to, confess our sins, with no excuses included.

✟ **Romans 3:19 (NLT)** *Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God.*