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Upsetting Event: Sitting with my son at home, and struggling to make conversation.

| Emotions | % Now | % Goal | % After | Emotions | % Now | % Goal | % After |
|------------|-------|--------|---------|----------------|-------|--------|---------|
| depressed | 85 | 20 | 0 | self-conscious | 90 | 10 | 5 |
| Anxious | 65 | 15 | 5 | discouraged, | 85 | 5 | 5 |
| ashamed | 90 | 10 | 0 | stuck, | 95 | 5 | 5 |
| worthless, | 90 | 10 | 5 | angry | | | |
| Lonely | 70 | 10 | 5 | Other | | | |

| | Negative Thoughts | % Now | % After | Distortions | Positive Thoughts | % Belief |
|----|---|-------|---------|--|---|----------|
| 1. | Something is wrong with me because I can't talk to him. | 100 | 0 | LAB; MF; DP; MAG; SH; SB; ER | It's not true that I can't talk to him. I struggle with this, but I'm getting better at it. | 100 |
| 2. | I'm failing him as a father. | 90 | 0 | AON; MF; DP; MAG; SH; SB; LAB; MR; ER | I've given him a lot, and spent lots of time with him white water rafting, camping, scuba diving, hiking, rock climbing, and more, and I'm always there when he needs me. I can improve on my shortcomings. | 100 |
| 3. | I'm inadequate as a father. | 100 | 0 | AON; SB; DP; ER | I'm there for him in so many ways. My love for him could fill the universe. | 100 |
| 4. | He deserves so much better than me. | 100 | 20 | MF; DP; MR | Of course he does! He's so wonderful that I could be the best father on the planet, and he'd still deserve more. And I can and will do better. | 100 |
| 5. | I don't deserve his love. | 85 | 10 | SB; ER | He loves me, so I must be deserving of his love. | 100 |

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| Negative Thoughts | % Now | % After | Distortions | Positive Thoughts | % Belief |
|--|-------|---------|-----------------|---|----------|
| 6. I've negatively affected his life. | 100 | 10 | AON; MF; SB; DP | l've made many mistakes as a father, but he turned out to be a wonderful person. l've been a positive influence in many ways. | 100 |
| 7. He must wish he had a different father. | 95 | 0 | MR | He's never expressed anything like that. He loves me and knows that I love him. | 100 |
| I should not have become a father because of all my deficits. | 95 | 5 | SH; SB | Even great fathers have deficits. I can be a good father, even with my deficits. | 100 |
| 9. His problems are all my fault. | 95 | 10 | AON; SB; ER | There would be multiple causes for whatever problems he has, and I'm probably only a small part of that. I've always wanted the best for him. | 100 |
| 10. I'm not doing a good enough job in this demonstration to make sure it is helpful. | 90 | | MR; SB; DP; ER | | |

| Checklist of Cognitive Distortions* | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1. All-or-Nothing Thinking (AON). You view things in black-and-white categories. | 6. Magnification and Minimization (MAG/MIN). You magnify things up or shrink them. | | | |
| Overgeneralization (OG). You view a negative event as a never-ending pattern of defeat: "This <i>always</i> happens!" | Emotional Reasoning (ER). You reason from your feelings: "I feel like an idiot, so I must really be one." | | | |
| 3. Mental Filter (MF). You dwell on the negatives and ignore the positives. | 8. Should Statements (SH). You use shoulds, shouldn'ts, musts, oughts, and have tos. | | | |
| 4. Discounting the Positive (DP). You insist that your positive qualities don't count. | 9. Labeling (LAB). Instead of saying, "I made a mistake," you say, "I'm a jerk" or "I'm a loser." | | | |
| Jumping to Conclusions (JC). You jump to conclusions not warranted by the facts. Mind-Reading (MR). You assume that people are reacting negatively to you. Fortune-Telling (FT). You predict that things will turn out badly. | 10. Blame (BL). You find fault instead of solving the problem. Self-Blame (SB). You blame yourself / beat up on yourself Other-Blame (OB). You blame others. | | | |