

Book of Proverbs - V

"Train Up a Child"

Prov. 22:6

I. THE AWESOMENESS OF PARENTING

- A. Recognize your God-given responsibilities.
- B. Parent-child relationship has more potential for fulfillment than any other relationship--and can be the most frustrating.
- C. No substitute for parents who love and care and take parenting seriously.

II. REARING CHILDREN LIKE GARDENING

- A. Children are the fruit of our body.
- B. We are the garden of the Lord, and He takes great care in us.
- C. Creating conditions for growth.
 - 1. Cannot create life, cannot control growth, but can create conditions.
 - 2. Need to learn more about children--their needs, wants, and growth patterns.
 - 3. Be sensitive to "insects and diseases" which keep them from blossoming and having a fruitful life.
 - 4. What greater joy than to see fruit of labor in a happy, whole, effective adult who is the product of your home?

III. GOALS FOR CHILDREN

- A. Goals of Hebrew fathers for sons.
 - 1. Prepare him for the law.
 - 2. Fit him for wedlock.
 - 3. Teach him a trade.
- B. What should our goals be?
 - 1. Have a vital faith in God, and to become good citizen.
 - 2. Have a good marriage.
 - 3. Develop God-given abilities to fullest and use them for good of others.
- C. Ways to accomplish.
 - 1. Guidance through discipline.
 - 2. Communicating values.
 - 3. Spend time with family.

IV. HOW DO WE TRAIN UP A CHILD?

- A. Teaching
- B. Discipline
- C. Love

V. TEACHING (through instruction)

A. Deut. 6:1,2,7 - "Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest

1. Fear the Lord thy God,
2. To keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee,
3. Thou, and thy son, and thy son's son
4. All the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.
5. V. 7,8,9: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children,

and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates."

B. Parental instruction should be:

1. From the heart.
2. Diligent and earnest.
3. Persevering and continuous for:
 - a. Formation of habit.
 - b. Training of character.

C. Teach by example.

D. Means of teaching.

1. Child should know what is expected (guidelines, rules, limits).
2. Jobs and chores.
 - a. To teach responsibility.
 - b. To develop good work habits.

E. What to teach.

1. Truthfulness.
2. Faith.
3. Modesty.

F. Parents should monitor TV, movies, reading.

VI. DISCIPLINE

A. "Deliberate stress introduced into children's lives to stretch their capacities for performance."

1. Restraints.
2. Saying "no."
3. Discipline helps children learn that feelings do not run their lives.
4. Requires demands and teaches responsibility.
5. Obedience not an option.

B. Difference between discipline and punishment.

1. Punishment - Painful consequences which is the result of misdeeds and violations of family standards.
2. Two kinds of punishment.
 - a. Corrective - Warn someone going in wrong direction

(artificial--is created; ex: spanking).

b. Judicial - Natural consequences; paying for misdeeds through God's laws and principles, or man's laws.

C. The "Rod" - should be way of love; not last resort.

1. Prov. 10:13 - *"In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: (can talk to one who has understanding) but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding (who do not understand other way; for rebellious acts of defiance).*

2. Prov. 13:24 - *"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."*

3. Prov. 22:15 - *"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him."*

4. Prov. 23:13-14 - *Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell."*

5. Prov. 29:15 - *"The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."*

D. Rules for spanking.

1. Should be primarily for younger children (pre-puberty).

2. Never be impulsive; should be done by parent in control--not out of fit of anger (which can likely avoid abuse).

3. Reserve spanking for violations such as disobedience, defiance, disrespect, lying, hurting someone else.

4. Should be done consistently.

5. Should fit the person.

6. Fit the misbehavior--don't overpunish.

7. Should be done in private.

8. Should be thorough.

9. Should have beginning and ending--when finished, forgiveness and restoration.

10. Should emanate from heart of love, not vengeance.

VII. LOVE

A. Physical expression should as touching, hugging, expressing love.

B. Paying attention to child--respect what they have to say.

C. Companionship

1. Spending time together with children.

a. Family night.

b. Family vacations.

c. Involvement in children's activities.

d. Children involved in parent's activities.

2. Having meals together.

VIII.FAMILY DEVOTIONS