

# BRINGING UP CHILDREN



Your children belong to you, not the school or even the church. It is your responsibility to bring your children up in the fear and admonition of the Lord. That means to teach them to have a healthy fear of the Lord and to teach them to listen to Jesus' leading to change what they are doing and thinking when He moves on their heart. We can't expect someone else to do the teaching and training.

We are to train up a child in the way he should go, so that when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6  
This is to be done with love and wisdom; knowing what God's Word says about it in the New Testament, and continually seeking His guidance while you are doing it. Most of His teaching on bringing up children is on teaching us all to love and respect one another.

This is how we are to teach them:

First and foremost teach them to love Jesus with all of their heart and they will do this as you do it yourself. And teach them to love everyone as they love themselves.

Teach them about what the Commandments say so that they know what is right and wrong. The Commandments are stated in Romans 13:9 and in the Mark 10:19. There are many other what I would call commands of Jesus of how to act and think, etc.

You only have to read the gospels to know that.

We are also not to curse or swear because we will answer for it if we curse or swear. We are to treat His Name with reverence and respect.

We are to worship God and nothing or no one else. If we love money, possessions, people or ourselves more than Jesus, we are worshipping an idol. We are not to bow down, pray to or worship anything like a statue or any object that we have made or bought, either.

God also said, "Oh that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear Me, and keep my Commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!" Deuteronomy 5:2

The Bible says, "Even a child is known by his doings; whether his work is pure, and whether it be right." Proverbs 20:11

"Correct thy son ( or daughter) and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul!" Proverbs 29:15, 17

"The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him!" Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice!" Proverbs 23:24, 25

"A foolish son (or daughter) is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him."

Proverbs 17:21, 25

"A foolish son (or daughter) is the calamity (ruin) of his father (or mother)

Proverbs 19:13

But we can teach them not to be foolish while they are young!

"Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father." (and mother) 28:7

"Whoso loveth wisdom rejoiceth his father (and mother) but he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth his substance." Proverbs 29:3

"A GOOD name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold!" Proverbs 22:1

If you teach your children to obey, they won't get into trouble with the law and give you a bad name.

Teach your children that, "The Commandment is a lamp and the law is light! And reproofs of instruction is a way of life!" Proverbs 6:23

Ephesians 6:1-4 says, "Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

Honour (respect) thy father and mother; which is the first Commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the Earth."

"And ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Here is how some good friends discipline their children:

Personally, we have never spanked our children. However, what we have done many times, when they have been rebellious, is to pray over them, using the blood of Christ to rebuke that rebellion and the sin they are doing. And it works! The blood of Christ rebukes all sin and rebellion, even in children!

All children are born in sin, Psalm 51:5 and from a young age there is sin simply because we are born of Adam.

What we do in situations of disobedience with our kids is to immediately and forcefully gather them up and pray over them, and cast out the devil, and sin, and the spirit of rebellion; as well as temptation (kids face temptation, too) and stand against it with the power of the blood of Jesus. A mother and father in agreement, praying over their children will cast off any rebellion or disobedience. We have literally seen the effects happen right in front of us as we prayed!

And now our eldest has said to us that when she feels sinful she knows to go and pray for herself, and cast away the devil and run away from sin!

We could not ask for a better, result and firmly believe that a spanking would never have given such a great outcome because now she knows how to deal with sin herself—ask for forgiveness, praying in the Name of Jesus and rebuke sin!

That is the greatest thing we hope to teach our children—run away from sin and run to Jesus! By doing things this way, we give them a real example of the authority of Jesus in action! Jesus acts directly upon them; rebukes them, helps them, guides them, protects them, and shows them what is right!

Our kids know Jesus' power and His power in us through prayer is much more convincing than a spanking. The blood of Jesus works!"

This is quite a testimony of how to discipline your children! I wish I had known this when I had young children. I recommend that you take their advice! A mother or father alone can pray the same way. Jesus can be in agreement with you when you pray; just ask Him to be!

It is very important to give them time outs and give them boundaries and punish them by taking their privileges away, but it not okay to call them names and belittling their character. Words are powerful and what you say can make them think that they or their opinions aren't worth much. Words you say to them can effect the rest of their lives.

Children need your guidance and a child will be well adjusted and happy if you discipline them with love and respect. They are human beings and not possessions and they need to be treated as such at all times.

Society encourages children to be rebellious and you must teach them not to be self-centered. Commercial teach them to want everything they see and you must say No and not give them a lot of things. That's not what life is about. Life is about loving God first and loving and giving to one another and putting ourselves last.

If you don't teach your children to love and respect you; they won't love, respect, and obey Jesus, and they will grow up to rebel against all authority!

You are the biggest influence in their life and they will listen to you and follow your example above all else! It's important that you begin to teach them the ways of Jesus right away.

Even as a baby you can teach them about Jesus' love by treating them like precious human beings and treating them with love and respect. You need to value what they say and take time to listen and respond lovingly when they express themselves to you, even before they can say actual words.

But be firm when they are in error and sometimes refuse to let them talk about a thing further, if they are wrong. Just wait to talk about it again until they are willing to listen.

Time outs when emotions run high are very good for all concerned. I'm sure you have already learned that you feel differently after all concerned have had a chance to cool down. You will find that you can now think clearly.

Raising a child is the hardest thing in the world to do, but it has rich rewards if we raise them the way the New Testament teaches. We can't go wrong if we raise them that way; in the love and admonition of the Lord! We are to point the way to go in their life.

Here is the Scripture about that: "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the Way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." Isaiah 3:21 We have the responsibility to walk in the ways of Jesus and let Him point the way.

When you love and obey Jesus as written in the New Testament, following His example of living and thinking you will have peace in your life.

When you have disciplined children there will be love, peace, thanksgiving, joy, and harmony in your home!



**I Believe It!**