

# **IMPACTFUL PARENTING**

Goals for Raising Children

## IMPACTFUL PARENTING

Will you teach your children as well as train them?

What's the difference between teaching and training?

**Discipleship – go and make...**

- Prov. 22:6 “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Training is more than teaching!

**“Children don’t come ready made.”**

- ***Training* is more than teaching.**
- Teaching makes a child know and understand what they are to do.
- ***Training* influences them and sees that they learn to do it.**
- Teaching deals with the child’s mind.
- ***Training* deals with his will.**

**The challenge:** is to pass on to the generations!

- Psalm 78:4 “We will not hide them from their children telling; to the generation to come the praises of the Lord.”
- Psalm 78:5 “...which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children,
- Psalm 78:6 “That the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children...”
- Joel 1:3 “Tell your children about it, let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.” (God is warning)

### **FOUR FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS:**

**1. The salvation of our children:** Matt. 19:13-14; Ez. 18:20.

**Matt. 19:13-14:** *“Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’”*

The disciples hindered the little children to come to Jesus.

How do we hinder children to come to Jesus?

Do we believe in the salvation of our young children?

**D. L. Moody said,** “I believe myself that if children are old enough to come to Sunday School, they are old enough to come to Calvary. Let us make up our minds, God helping us, to win children for Christ.”

**Charles Spurgeon**, noted British preacher, states: “I have usually found a clearer knowledge of the Gospel and a warmer love to Christ in the child convert than in the man convert. They have not to unlearn the habits of doubt and misconception that hinder so many from accepting the Gospel.

**Spurgeon** also stated, “A child of, five if properly instructed, can as readily believe and be regenerated (converted, born again) as anyone.”

“85% of all commitments made to Christ occur between the ages of 4 & 14.”

**If a person does not accept Christ between the ages of 4 to 14, there is only a 15% chance of doing so during their lifetime.**

What about the “age of accountability? (I believe this idea comes from the tradition of Jewish ceremony of which a child became of age at 12 or 13.)

**These people received Christ early in life:**

Matthew Henry was 10 years old

Jonathan Edwards was 7 years old.

Charles Spurgeon was 5 years old

Mrs. Ruth Graham was 5 years old

Children live in a world of trust. They understand trust. They will trust Jesus.

Jesus was greatly displeased with His disciples. His disciples probably considered these little children, to little, to unimportant, to young to understand the great words of Jesus.

The disciples simply undervalued the children.

In Acts 2:39, we read, “For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself.” What was the promise Peter spoke of? God’s promise of salvation to all who recognized Christ as the Son of God and willing to receive His forgiveness of sin through trust and faith in Him. (Acts 2:22-42)

**2 Tim. 3:15:** “...and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

**What will enable our children to live out their life in Christ?**

**Christianity is a supernatural life.** How will they be enabled to live this life out? They need to understand the work of the person of the Holy Spirit.

John 14 :13, “...the Spirit of truth... will guide you into all truths.” John 14:26, “...will teach you all things...”

Our personal goal for our children was (is) to see them grow up to love Jesus Christ, with all their *hearts*, and to be *obedient* to Him, and to *honor* Him and to be led and walk in the Spirit.

**Parents have goals for their children.** What will they be? Most goals are *temporal*. Will there be *eternal* goals?

- 2. What God expects from us (parents):** Deut. 6:4-9 “Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all of your soul, and with all of your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

- Parents personal walk with God, love God with your heart, soul, and strength.
- Teach your children **diligently**. When: all the time!
- The Hebrew word for parent means to “**instruct**.”
- Who you are will affect your children?
- Parents are teachers, **instructors**.
- “It is not what you think that influences your children, it is what you communicate.”
- You are being watched all the time.

### 3. What God expects from our children: Eph. 6:1-4

- **Obey:**
- **Honor:**

*If the parent did not learn this as a child, then it may be difficult to teach this to their children.*

Children learn how to obey and honor if they see it demonstrated.  
These are life rules, for all.

### 4. The Hearts: Prov. 4:23

***“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.”***

- Malachi 4:6, “And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers.”
- The turning of hearts’ starts with parents. More specifically, the father.
- Is your heart turned towards your children?
- Do you like your children?
- Do you want to be with your children? Do you spend much time with them?
- Would you rather be with other people than your own children?

We believe that God’s Word can be trusted and that has everything needed for life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3) *“As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of His who called us by glory and virtue.”*

We believe to believe and obey Scriptures *rather* than conforming to what others were saying and doing is important in raising children.

Important Scripture: **Rom. 12:1-2** (renewing of the mind) *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

Keeping a child’s heart will be difficult if that child does not become saved. Save from their sin, from themselves.

- Sometimes a young parent *asks* us questions concerning keeping the hearts of their children but doesn’t like our response. We suggest they consider what they will reap in fifteen years because of their choices.

**A critical factor in raising children is, whether or not the parents have their children’s heart!**

When a parent keeps the heart of their child, it is very easy to see if the child's heart begins to drift.

Signs that a parent does not have their child's heart, (1) the child won't listen to parent, (2) The child does not value their parent's words and will be argumentative.

We have no hope of keeping our children's hearts aside from the Lord's working in our lives and in their lives. (Philippians 2:13) *"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."*

We must **pray** for our children! Will you?

Without having their hearts, we must rely on our authority to direct. This authority is often effective if we are watching and while the children are young enough to accept our authority.

## **DIRECTING YOUR CHILDREN**

In what will you **DIRECT** your children?

One of the easiest ways to give your child direction for life is by creating wonderful friends. You may say, finding good friends is hard, maybe impossible. Well, let me share with you how you can find many, many **great friends** for your children. BOOKS!  
Mentoring your children made easy.

(1) Character developed. (2) Good mindset developed.

One of the worse places for your children to spend time is with the media. They will develop friends who will not be helpful to them. We will talk more about this later.

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**Directive parenting is about mindsets.** Mindsets become standards for life. "Train up a child in the way they should go..." This is about creating a mindset, a mindset to think as God thinks.

**The most overlooked part of the child - the spiritual side of the child.**

Read through the book of Proverbs – everyday, read one Proverb each day and every month.

Train your children to memorize God's Word – then do it!

Train your children to have Alone Time with the Lord – then do it every day.

Remember, the difference between training and teaching.

- **Teaching makes a child know and understand what they are to do.** We may use the term, instructing or telling.
- **Training influences them and sees that they learn too actually do it.**

**How do we DIRECT our children?**

Matthew 9:36; Col. 3:12-15; Gal. 5:22-25; James 1:19-20; Romans 2:4

**What do we DIRECT our children in?**

- Deut. 6:5-7 **“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”**
- Proverbs 22:6 **“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”**
- Proverbs 9:10 **“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”**

**WORLDVIEW MATTERS! (How and what we believe)** Worldview shapes **values**, which shape **behavior**, which shapes **culture**.

Things our children should be taught before leaving our home.

1. **Is there a God? If there is a God, what does He want from me?** *(The “God” question)*
2. **Where did we come from? And why are we here?** *(The “Creation” question)*
3. **Who are we, what gives us value, what happens when we die?** *(The “Humanity” question)*
4. **Did we evolve or were we created? Is there a reason and purpose for life?**  
*(The “Purpose” question)*
5. **Is morality absolute or subjective? How do people determine right or wrong?**  
*(The “Moral” question)*
6. **What does it mean to have a personal relationship with God?**  
*(How this is answered will have an everlasting effect on you.)*
7. **How to pray, to talk with God.** *(Jesus told us how to pray in Matthew 6:9-13.)*
8. **What does it mean to serve God?**
9. **How to read and respond to God’s word.**  
*(One of the most important things our children can know.)*
10. **Learning about who God the father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit is.**  
*(Do our children understand the 3 aspects of our God?)*
11. **What is faith?** *(Faith is what pleases God (Hebrews 11:6). Faith is active confidence in God. Gal. 2:20 – “We live by faith.” 2 Cor. 5:7 – “We walk by faith.” Eph. 2:8 – “For by grace you have been saved through faith.”)*
12. **What does it mean to obey and honor?** *(We will talk more about this, but it is one of the most important things to train our children in. If you get anything, get this.)*
13. **Understanding about Bible prophecies from the Bible.** *(There are 1,239 prophecies in the O.T. and 578 prophecies in the N.T. These prophecies are contained in 8,352 of the Bible verses. Since there are 31,124 verses in the Bible – constitutes 26.8 percent of the Bible’s volume.)*
14. **Understanding the book of Genesis.** *(Genesis is foundational.)*
15. **Understanding the resurrection of Jesus Christ.** *(The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the crowning proof of Christianity. If the resurrection did not take place, then Christianity is a false religion.)*

Again, “It is not so much what you think that influences your children, it is what you communicate.”

### **Who will direct your child’s thoughts?**

“Your children will become the disciples of the person with whom they spend the majority of time and from whom they receive instruction.” Michael Farris

## CORRECTING YOUR CHILDREN

### INTRODUCTION –

Correction is part of the job –

Correction is part of the job description as a parent –

If you have a plan for dealing with correction you don't have to rely on anger to solve the problem.

The first step in this routine is to use words –

#### (A) Speaking wise words:

- What part, does speaking God's Word into your child's heart play in your parenting?
- 2 Tim. 3:16 *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness..."* this verse describes' what God's Word does – **teach, reprove, correct, and train**. How do these things affect your parenting?

**Teaching** – sets the standard of godly living.

**Reproof** – calls a person to account for violating God's ways.

**Correction** – points the person in the right direction.

**Training** (discipline) in righteousness – directs the person toward godly living.

- What place does **confession, forgiveness, repentance, conviction, and Godly sorrow**, have in your parenting practices?

**This approach starts with words** – We want to teach our children the importance of responding to words of correction. *What if children choose not to respond to words, then we move to the next step, which is "the Break."*

#### (B) The "Break" Corrections for the heart ([biblicalparenting.org](http://biblicalparenting.org))

**Teach the children to take a break.** Let's look at the difference between the *"time-out approach"* and the *"taking a break approach."*

#### (C) Choices and Consequences – Consequences help change the heart

- Do your children understand that their choices have consequences?
- How does Gal. 6:7-8 affect how you parent?

*"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." 8"*  
*For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."*

- Are your children accountable for their choices and decisions?
- What is a natural consequence? (Which is fitting to the offense?)
- What is a logical consequence? (Prior agreement between parent and child)
- How does obedience play into your parenting style?
- How does honor play into your parenting style?
- What about restricting freedom?
- What about more parental control?
- How about "practice doing the right thing."

#### (D) Physical Discipline – There are two camps when it comes to spanking.

(1) There are those who think every good parent needs to spank their kids.

(2) And then there are those who believe that if you spank your kids, you're going to raise, emotionally crippled children or violent kids.

# **PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN**

## **WATCHING OVER THE HEART**

Introduction - “Are our homes safe from temptation?”

The enemy uses these three things to entice us to sin.

- **“The lust of the flesh”** is the gratifying of physical desires, the sinful desires of the flesh.
- **“The lust of the Eyes”** is the allure of materialism. Covetousness – the ungodly desire for more. Greed. Possessions. Only satisfied in God. Luke 12:15 Covetousness.
- **“The pride of Life”** is the desire to direct our own destiny and to rule our own world (the deceptive lure of living for self). Self-glorification.

### **1. What controls your child’s desires?**

- **How does Prov. 4:23 affect your parenting?**

<sup>23</sup>*“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.”*

- **How does Gal. 6:7-8 affect your parenting?**

<sup>7</sup>*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. <sup>8</sup>For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. (Gal. 6:7-8)*

- a. What do your children read?
- b. What do your children watch?
- c. What do your children listen to?
- d. What are your children amused by?

### **2. Understanding what holds your child’s heart.**

- **How does 1 Cor. 15:33 affect your parenting?**

<sup>33</sup>*Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”*

- a. Unbelievers
- b. Immoral people
- c. False teachers

### **3. What captures your child’s imagination?**

“What tastes are we allowing our children to develop?”

- **THE MEDIA**
  - Movies/Videos
  - Radio/Media
  - Internet/Online
  - Magazines/Publications



#### 4. Whatever captures their imagination will feed their heart.

##### How does Ps. 101: 3 affect your parenting?

David said, *"I will set nothing wicked before my eyes..."*

Philippians 4:8 *"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things."*

(As children grow up, their "normal" for their life is being created.)

"To sow an act, is to reap a tendency;  
To sow a tendency is to reap a habit;  
To sow a habit is to reap a character;  
To sow a character is to reap a destiny."

*"Whatsoever a man sows that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:17*

C.H. Spurgeon in his book "Spiritual Parenting" states: "Youth is susceptible to evil doctrine. **Whether** we teach young Christian's **truth** or **not**, **the devil** will be sure to teach them **error**."

Spurgeon also stated, *"If you teach the child wrongly, he believes you. If you teach him heresies, he will receive them. What you teach him now, he will never forget."*

One of the least believed Scriptures in the Bible as far as parenting goes:

**"Do not be deceived: bad company corrupts good morals."** 1 Cor. 15: 33 or  
*"Bad company ruins good morals." "Evil company corrupts good habits."*