

THE PASTOR'S FAMILY:

Building a home of nurture and admonition

I. THE GIFT OF FAMILY

➤ God's plan for society's smallest social unit –

Gen 1:28 –

Gen 2:19-24 –

Psalm 78:1-8, 22 –

Prov 1:1ff –

A. Insulated Learning

Deut. 6:4-6 –

1. The grace of measured consequences

2. The grace of balanced training

B. Interdependent Living

1. Mutual Sacrifice

Rom 12:9-21 -

Phil 2:3-4 -

1 Pet 3:8-9 -

1 John 4:7-11 -

2. Resource-sharing

Psalm 127 & 128 -

3. Required equity

II. THE GIFT OF PARENTS

A. Unique Instructors

Prov 1 & 2 -

1. Designed for a unique role

To Indoctrinate - Deut 6/ Prov 2/ Eph 6:4

2. Rooted in a unique love

Matt 7:9-11 -

1 Thess 2 -

Heb 12 -

3. Grounded by a unique future

Psalm 128 -

B. Unique Instruction

1. Wisdom from above

2 Tim 3:15 -

2. Wisdom from life

3. Wisdom from parenting

III. THE GIFT OF RIGHT FOUNDATIONS

Eph. 6:4, to *“bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”*

A. *Keeping the Right Motivation*

Num. 20:8-13 –

1. Pleasing God vs. Pleasing Self

A parent’s motive must be the glory of God. This is a higher motivation than personal happiness (1 Cor. 10:31).

Discipline and instruction from a **selfish** motivation will not produce God-blessed change.

2. Pleasing God vs. Pleasing Others

Gal. 1:10 –

Col. 3:22 –

2 Cor. 10:12 –

3. Trust vs. Fear

Parents need to avoid being motivated by the wrong kind of fear. (Prov. 3:5-8; 1 Jn. 4:16-18)

We must understand what it means to trust God in every area of our lives, including parenting.

B. Keeping the Right Focus

1. **Biblical parenting is not complicated.**

In Matt. 22:37-40

Parents then gain a false sense of confidence by substituting a particular parenting system for the faithful application of God's Word.

2. **Biblical parenting allows a variety of ways to apply biblical truth.**

When dealing with matters not specifically addressed in Scripture, we must be governed by **love** for others (Gal. 5:13) and showing **deference** to others (Rom. 14:19).

3. **Biblical parenting does not involve “quick fixes.”**

Parenting is a multi-faceted relationship that lasts a lifetime.

The focus here is on perseverance (Gal. 6:9). We're in it for the 'long haul.'

4. **Biblical parenting understands the limitations of parental influence.**

Parents cannot **control** the results of their parenting effort. God does.

Phil. 1:6 –

Ga. 5:22-25 –

Heb. 4:12 –

C. *Keeping the Right Balance*

Watch especially for a lack of balance in these areas:

1. **External and Internal**. (Sermon on the Mount-Matt. 5 & 6)

2. **Freedom and Responsibility** (Gal. 5:13,14; 1 Pt. 2:16).

3. **Friendship and Authority**

4. **Major issues and Minor Issues**

5. **Parenting as the sole focus of the Christian life and parenting as an important aspect of the Christian life (1 Cor. 10:31)**

IV. THE GIFT OF NURTURE AND ADMONITION

A. The Parent as a Disciplinarian

Eph. 6:4 says, *And fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

1. Unbiblical Discipline

- a. Depends excessively on controlling the child.

Out-of-balance discipline may:

- (i) Provoke a child to rebel. . .they lose hope and respond in anger.

- (ii) Prevent the development of inner convictions.

Philippians 2:12: *“So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling.”*

- b. Disciplines in uncontrolled anger (Prov. 14:17, Prov. 16:32).

- c. Disciplines just because the child is an inconvenience.

- d. Disciplines without a balance of encouragement.

Rom. 13:7 –

Heb. 10:25 –

1 Thes. 5:14 –

e. Thinks discipline will hinder creativity and potential.

f. Thinks discipline will warp the child.

g. Neglects timely correction.

Discipline your son while there is hope, and do not desire his death (Prov.19:18). Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil (Ecc. 8:11).

h. Withholds the use of the rod.

2. Biblical Discipline

a. It is loving.

Heb. 12:5-15 –

Beneficial limits:

(i) Provide a good setting for learning

(ii) Establish order

(iii) Protect the child from things he cannot handle

(iv) Prepare a child for the limits of life situations

(v) Reveal the need for teaching

(vi) Expose his inability to keep the standard and his need for a Savior.

The goal is to be faithful in teaching our children to understand what it means to know and love Christ and to be obedient to God's Word.

