

PARENTING GOD'S WAY

Proverbs 22:6

Introduction: Ever see a perfect child (other than your own)? God has advice for parents on the best way to bring up their children. God commands (as a matter of fact) parents to be involved in training and directing their children's lives and if done properly, when grown the child (children) will not stray from his/her childhood training.

I. PARENTS ARE NOT TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN WAY OF LIFE

1. Parents are to place their child/children on the right path in early childhood, directing him/her (them) in the way of life that follows/agrees with God's standards.
2. Good parenting produces good results.
 - *Proverbs 29:17*
 - *Proverbs 31:28*
3. Poor parenting produces poor results.
 - *Proverbs 17:21*
 - *Proverbs 29:15b*
 - **1 Samuel 3:13**
4. It is only natural for the Old Sin Nature (human nature) to take over a child's life, therefore every child needs to be directed in God's way, God's standards and principles of life and that is what parents are to do.

II. THE PARENTS

1. God has made promises to parents and those promises are found in God's Word. Among those promises is that parents who follow God's instructions in teaching their children will be blessed and those who do not will receive cursing.
 - The Blessing:
 - *Proverbs 10:1a*
 - *Proverbs 23:24-25*
 - *Proverbs 29:17*
 - *Proverbs 31:28*
 - The Cursing:
 - *Proverbs 10:1b*
 - *Proverbs 17:21*
 - *Proverbs 29:15*
 - Children become the very instruments of cursing to their own parents. Their self-centered attitude affects their education, career, marriage, family which they could have avoided if only the parents had trained them when they were children, in God's ways.
 - God has provided His truth to enable every parent to receive blessing instead of cursing. It is the responsibility of each mom and dad to seek God's truth and then apply it in the training of their children.

2. God has entrusted parents with a life (lives). If it were not for the will of God, people would not have children. **Job 33:4**
 - The fact that God has entrusted parents with children makes parents accountable to Him for the gift of life.
 - God, as creator, has a purpose and plan for everything which He creates.
 - **Psalm 127:3**
 - Children are physically a product of parents, BUT God is the source of every child's life.
 - YOUR child is a gift from God.
 - God has a plan and purpose for each child and is placed in a specific family as part of that plan. About 1/3 of a child's total life requires training and parents are responsible to train their child/children according to God's standards.
 - **Children are to be trained by their parents.**
 - **Deuteronomy 6:6-7**
 - **Ephesians 6:4**
 - **Proverbs 22:6**
 - **Children are to honor both their father and mother.**
 - **Exodus 20:12**
 - **Ephesians 6:2**
3. God has given parents the right and power to rule their children.
 - Parents also have the right to administer justice, to punish disobedience and to reward for obedience to their orders/commands.
 - **Children must obey both their father and mother.**
 - **Colossians 3:20a**
 - Children must do what they are told, meaning the parent's word is law.
 - There is no such thing as "child-rights" sanctioned by the Word of God.
 - "Parenting" is both the father and the mother's responsibility.
 - Fathers are supposed to give leadership by setting standards, warnings, penalties, etc.
 - Mothers are to assure the father's standards are upheld when he is absent and to set her own guidelines, but not contrary to the father's.
 - Parents who have failed to train their children properly often try to blame others, television, friends, the church, everybody, everything but themselves.
 - Parents are the symbol and representative of God's authority over children.
 - As a parent, you have the blessed opportunity to mold your child/children's ideas about God, family, life, etc.

CONCLUSION:

1. Blessings can come to parents from their children or cursings can come, depending upon how the parents trained their children (child) according to God's Word.
2. Parents have the God-assigned responsibility to train their children in God's way.
3. Parents have the God-given authority to correct, punish, compliment their children's actions.
4. Parents are responsible to God for raising obedient and respectful children.
5. Children are to honor their parents.
6. Parents, if you love your children, rule them, raise them according to God's standards.