

Title: Raising Kids God's Way

Text: *"And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty." (2 Cor. 6:18)*

Target: Parent your kids the way God parents you.

I. Parenting is about Calling: *"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in truth." (3 John 1:4)*

A. Not Owners, But Stewards: *"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward." (Psalm 127:3)*

B. Spiritual Formation: *"And these words that I commanded you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children." (Deut. 6:6-7)*

Question# 1: *What does it mean to see yourself as a steward rather than the owner of your children? How does that change the way you parent?*

Question# 2: *How can you make spiritual formation a natural part of your home life instead of just something you do at church?*

Question# 3: *If your kids could describe what's most important in your home, what would they say? Would they say it's Jesus? If not, what needs to shift?*

Challenge: *This week, be intentional about one way you can lead your child spiritually—whether it's praying together, reading a Bible story, or just having a conversation about faith*

II. Parenting is about Connection: *"And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers." (Malachi 4:6)*

A. Live a Life worth Imitating: *"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." (1 Cor. 11:1)*

B. Pursue your Child's Heart: (Quality Time, Gifts, Touch, Service, Affirmation)

C. Avoid Exasperation: *"Fathers do not provoke your children, lest they be discouraged." (Col. 3:21) *Favoritism, Neglect, Overprotection, Criticism*

Question# 4: *Think about how your parents raised you. What's one thing they did that made you feel deeply loved? What's one thing you've had to unlearn as a parent?*

Question# 5: *Which of these do you struggle with the most—quality time, physical affection, words of affirmation, acts of service, or giving thoughtful gifts—when it comes to showing love to your child?*

Question# 6: *How do you balance authority and relationship? Are your kids more likely to see*

you as their leader or their friend?

Challenge: Identify your child's primary love language and intentionally show love in that way this week.

III. Parenting is about Consistency: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
(Joshua 24:15)

- A. Teaching:** "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching." (Proverbs 1:8)
- B. Training:** "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)
- C. Correcting:** "For the Lord reproveth him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights." (Proverbs 3:12)
- D. Reproving:** "Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline." (Rev. 3:19)

Question# 7: Kids learn more from what we do than what we say. What's one area where you need to be more consistent as a parent?

Question# 8: How do you handle discipline in a way that reflects both truth and grace?

Question# 9: What's one thing you want to be known for as a parent? Are you actively living that out?

Challenge: Pick one household rule or routine that has been inconsistent, and commit to following through this week

IV. Parenting is about Commissioning: "Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate." (Psalm 127:4-5)

- A. Straighten the Arrow:** Correction unto Character
- B. Sharpen the Arrow:** Character unto Conviction
- C. Shoot the Arrow:** Conviction unto Confidence

Question# 10: The Bible says children are like **arrows**—what does it mean to straighten, sharpen, and shoot your kids toward God's purpose?

Question# 11: How do you prepare your children to make their faith **their own**, instead of just following rules?

Question# 12: *What fears do you have about **letting go** when the time comes? How can you surrender those fears to God?*

Challenge: *Pray over your children this week—not just for their present needs, but for the adults they will become.*

V. Parenting is about Confidence: *“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.” (Luke 15:20)*

- A. God’s Timing is Not Our Timing:** *“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promises.” (2 Peter 3:9)*
- B. You Are Not Alone:** *“No temptation has seized you except what is common.” (1 Cor. 10:13)*
- C. Your Identity is in Christ, Not in Your Child’s Choices:** *“No condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.” (Romans 8:1)*
- D. Keep the Door Open:** *“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” (1 Cor. 13:7)*
- E. Don’t Give Up Praying:** *“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” (James 5:16)*

Question# 13: *Have you ever felt guilt or shame over your parenting? How does Romans 8:1 (no condemnation in Christ) encourage you?*

Question# 14: *What does it mean to keep the door open for your child even when they make mistakes?*

Question# 15: *What’s one specific prayer you are praying over your child right now?*

Challenge: *This week, commit to praying daily for your child—no matter their age or situation.*

Takeaway: A Christ-centered home is a threat to the schemes of hell.

Final Challenge: *Choose one thing from this sermon/discussion that convicted you the most and commit to acting on it this week. Then, check in with someone in your community group for accountability.*

We have Groups for every age and stage of life! To find a list of open Community Groups, search our Group Finder tool! [Click Here](#)