

WISE PARENTING

The Rock Miami Church
February 16-17, 2024

Wise Parenting

Schedule

Friday evening

8:00-9:30 That Smarts!

Saturday morning

9:00 - 10:25 Tech-Wise

10:35 - 12:00 Home Grown Wisdom

THAT SMARTS!

Indicators that you can “excel still more” in training your children:

- Sometimes you find yourself disliking your child.
- When you tell your child to do something, they don't do it.
- Your child is slow to obey.
- You are anxious about being with your child in public places because of their behavior.
- Your child sort of follows your instructions.
- You find yourself often having to explain to your child why they should do what you asked them to do before they will follow through.
- You have to give instructions or get their attention several times before your child will respond.
- Your child talks back to you or contradicts you.
- You threaten with your facial expressions, tone of voice or lecturing to make your child obey.
- You find yourself bribing your child into obedience.
- You withhold or take things away instead of spanking.
- You change your command because of their response.
- You find yourself getting angry at your child because of their disobedience.

WHY WE DISCIPLINE OUR CHILDREN:

1. The basis of discipline is love

“My son, do not reject the discipline of the Lord or loathe His reproof, for whom the Lord loves He reproveth, even as a father corrects the son in whom he delights.” (Prov. 3:11-12)

2. The goal of discipline is character

“All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.” (Heb 12:11)

3. The product of discipline is delightful children

The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother. Correct your son, and he will give you comfort; He will also delight your soul. (Prov. 29:15,17)

4. The bigger picture of discipline is obedience to God

“Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.” (Deuteronomy 8:5)

THE THREE "C'S" OF OBEDIENCE:

1. Cheerfully *"A wise son accepts his father's discipline, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke."* (Prov. 13:1)

2. Completely *"A lazy man does not roast his prey, but the precious possession of a man is diligence."* (Prov. 12:27)

He also who is slack in his work is brother to him who destroys.
(Prov. 18:9)

3. Quickly *"He who gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who acts shamefully."*
(Prov. 10:5)

DO I NEED TO SPANK?

- *"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod correction shall drive it far from him."* (Proverbs 22:15)
- *"He that spares his rod hates his son; but he that loves him is diligent to discipline him."* (Proverbs 13:24)
- *"Withhold not correction from the child, for if you beat him with the rod, he shall not die. You shall beat him with the rod, and shall deliver his soul from hell."* (Proverbs 23:13-14)

- *"The rod and reproof give wisdom; but a child left to himself brings his mother to shame." (Proverbs 29:15)*
- *"Discipline your son while there is hope, and do not desire his death." (Proverbs 19:18)*
- *"Correct your son, and he shall give you rest; Yes, he shall give delight unto your soul." (Proverbs 29:17)*

THERE ARE NO SUBSTITUTES

THE THREE "C'S" OF DISCIPLINING:

- 1. Calm** (not angry, or irritated, a normal tone of voice)
"He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him" (Proverbs 13:24)
- 2. Caring** (not on a whim, or when it involves natural limitations)
"Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart." (Colossians 3:21)
- 3. Consistent** *"He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much." (Luke 16:10)*

Questions:

1. Your children are a gift from the Lord. Take a moment to pray about the vital opportunity and responsibility God has given you to train them to have a heart that is completely His.
2. Which boxes did you check for “indicators” of training needed (first thing mentioned in these notes)? Are you motivated to get some practical help today?
3. Of the Three “C’s” of Obedience how are each of your children obeying you Cheerfully? Completely? Quickly?
4. Review the above verses in Proverbs on spanking. Are you convinced that spanking is the biblical method of discipline for parents to train their children?
5. When it comes to disciplining your children do you do it in a way that is Calm? Caring? Consistent?
6. What is one take-away you have from this section?
7. Take time to pray for the Lord to use you to help raise up children who are obedient to Him.

Questions:

1. Knowing “more is caught than taught”, what spiritual disciplines are you instilling in your children?
2. Also knowing “there’s always room for growth”, what spiritual discipline do you want to begin modeling or model even better for your children?
3. Each of you share a number from 1-10 (1=not at all, 10=totally) on how much you (mom and dad) are on the same page with standards, goals, direction for your family.
4. How is evangelism currently a part of your family’s life?
What is your biggest obstacle to being a family on mission.
5. What are specific evangelism ideas you would like to include for your family? Who are people God has put in your life currently who don’t know the Lord? Come up with a plan to pray for them and reach out to them as a family.
6. What is one take-away you have from this section?
7. Take time to pray that you and your children would develop a growing heart for the lost. Pray for specific people in your life.

With whatever respect you want your children to express toward you, behave in the same way with your spouse.

- Date with individual child – *And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers.*” (Malachi 4:6a).
- Communicate love and affection: often, eye contact, winks, hugs as they walk by, kiss and hugs before bed. Take time to listen. Ask questions.
- Ask forgiveness in humility - *“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time.”* (1 Peter 5:6)
- Sibling Unity *“Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.”* (Phil. 2:1-2) We desire for our children to work together effectively and be a light to the world.

TECH-WISE

Establishing standards for social media and cell phone use

“All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.”

(1 Corinthians 6:12)

You will need to prayerfully consider the right standards for your family. Here are ours:

1. We provide time and space for creativity, interaction and skill.
2. We charge our phones overnight outside of our bedroom.
3. We don't entrust our child with a phone until they can be trusted with one, and truly need it.
4. We promote purposeful screen time.
5. We utilize car time for conversations, prayer and songs.
6. We have total access to our children's devices.
7. We put all of our phones, tablets and computers on a filtering/accountability system.
8. We set a daily time limit for non-school related internet time.
9. We pre-approve all apps before they can go on our child's phone.
10. We have a regular time to discuss phone and computer usage with our child.

WHEN YOU REALIZE YOU'VE NEGLECTED TO PUT A STANDARD IN PLACE

“A man’s pride will bring him low, But a humble spirit will obtain honor.” (Proverbs 29:23)

- *Don’t overload your kids with too many changes at once*
- *Humble yourself before your children*
- *Don’t waiver*

DEVELOP A CULTURE OF TRAINING IN YOUR CHURCH

*“Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.”
(1 Timothy 5:1)*

AS PARENTS WE MUST WIN FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CHILDREN!

“Give me your heart, my son, and let your eyes delight in my ways.” (Proverbs 23:26)

Questions:

1. What are ways you can personally improve at putting your tech devices in their place? What tech boundaries do you have for yourself that are an example for your children?

2. Do your children have clear boundaries for what they look or listen to on the phone, computer, TV, radio?
3. In what areas do you find it hard to establish tech boundaries for your children?
4. What is one take-away you have from this section?
5. Take time to pray for wise tech boundaries for your family.

HOME GROWN WISDOM

It takes much prayer and thought to create a God-honoring home life for children. *“The wise woman builds her house, the foolish tears it down with her own hands.”* (Proverbs 14:1)

A. FOLLOWING CHRIST

Do my kids know my heart for the Lord? Do my kids see me live life in such a way that I have “no holds in this world”? “and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the *present* form of this world is passing away.” (1 Corinthians 7:31)

- Quiet Time, prayer, scripture memory
- Choose to Exemplify Christ by walking in the Spirit - *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”* (Galatians 5:22-23)

Outreach - *“So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.”* (2 Corinthians 5:16)

- Pray for others as a family,
- Let them see you in action –
- Bring them into the action - family tradition, campus, on the go .
- Share what He has done -

B. ESTABLISHING GOOD RELATIONSHIPS

- Dad and Mom- respect, i.e. “I need to check with Dad” Do my kids know my heart for my spouse? Am I loving my spouse well?
 - Date night and purposed times throughout the year to get on the same page.

C. HOME ROUTINES

A general plan they can count on, as determined at our twice a year get away

- Meals together with some direction
Ask about their day, current events, dad shares his day, read a book or the Bible , Birthday meal “Appreciation”, hospitality
- Reading aloud.
- Dad’s time: devotions, after work Consider books to read together in a.m. or before bed .
- Interactive games as a study break, end of day, etc.

- Give them experiences- field trips to art, history, science museums, music and orchestra, outdoors: camping, canoeing, teaching them various sports,

BIBLICAL PRAYERS FOR YOUR CHILDREN

“Let our sons in their youth be as grown-up plants, and our daughters as corner pillars...”(Ps.144:12)

1. That God **would draw them to Himself** at an early age (John 3:3, 6:44, Psalms 78:5-7)
2. For them **to obey and respect authority** (Exodus 20:12, Prov. 4:20, Ephesians 6:1, Col.3:20) & value their parent’s instruction (Prov. 6:20)
3. For their **moral purity** (Psalm 119:9, Proverbs 5:7-23; I Thess. 4:3, 2 Timothy 2:22)
4. That they would be **protected from the deceits and schemes** of Satan (Psalm 91, Ephesians 6:10-11)
5. That they would **know and love and trust God’s Word.** (Psalms 119:9-11, 2 Timothy 2:15, 1 Peter 2:2) (Prov.3:5)
6. That they would **glorify God** in whatever health or life circumstances He gives them, **rejoicing always** (Philippians 4:4, 1Thessalonians 5:18)
7. For them to be **wise in the wisdom of the Lord** (Proverbs 1:7,2:1-7) is not naïve. (Prov.13:1)
8. That they would have and be a **special friend; and develop the right friends.**(David and Jonathan: 1 Samuel 20),

9. That they would **endure hardship in fellowship** with Christ (Colossians 1:24, 2 Thessalonians 3:13, 2 Timothy 4:5, Hebrews 10:36, 12:7) **Can handle pain.**(Prov.18:14)
10. That their **yes would be a yes** and their *no* would mean *no* (Matthew 5:37, Psalm 15:4)
11. That they would be **equally yoked** to a godly spouse (1Corinthians 7:32-35, 2 Corinthians 6:14-20)
12. That they would be always **humble**, desiring for God to have the glory (Prov. 27:2, John 3:30, James 4:10, 1 Peter 5:5-7)
13. That their life would be used to **promote God's kingdom** (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 20:24)
14. That they would **understand grace** and so live out the law of Christ (Titus 2:11, James 4:6, 1 Peter 1:13)
15. That my **girl(s) would have a quiet and gentle spirit** and my **boy(s) would be the spiritual leader** of his family (1 Peter 3:4, Ephesians 5:23, 1 Timothy 3:4)
16. That they **hunger and thirst for God's righteousness** (Matthew 5:6, Proverbs 20:11)
17. For them to **identify** with femaleness/maleness (Romans 1:25-28)
18. That they **hate evil**, avoid it and get caught when they disobey (Psalm 34:11-14, Proverbs 4:14, Proverbs 15:3)
19. For them to be **hard workers** (Romans 12:11, Colossians 1:28- 29,3:17, 3:23-24)
20. That they would **think Biblically** (John 8:31-32, 2 Corinthians 10:5; Romans 12:1-2)

- 21.** For them to **be an encourager** to others (Ephesians 4:15, 29, Phil. 2:1-2, Hebrews 10:24)
- 22.** That they **love the church** (Ephesians 4:14-16, 1 Peter 1:22)
- 23.** For them to be **salt and light**. (Matthew 5:13-16, Colossians 4:5-6)
- 24.** That they be **secure** in who God has made them to be (Psalm 139:13-16, Romans 8:1, Ephesians 1:3-6)
- 25.** That they **know they are deeply loved** (Psalm 103, Lamentations 3:22, Titus 2:4)
- 26.** That they **love the Lord their God** with all their heart (Matthew 22:37-39)
- 27.** That they **love others** as they love themselves (Matthew 22:37-39)
- 28.** That they would have **honesty** with the Lord, themselves and others (1 John 1:1-9, Psalm 15:2)
- 29.** That they be **faithful stewards** of their God-given talents and their money. (Luke 16:10, 1 Timothy 6:6-10, Psalm 112:5, Proverbs 11:24-25)
- 30.** For them to live by an **eternal perspective** (Acts 20:24, Romans 12:1-2, Philippians 2:20, Colossians 3:1-2, Hebrews 11:13)
- 31.** That they would be men and women of **prayer** (Colossians 4:2, James 5:16, Acts 2:42)

Recommended Resources:

- *How Should a Child Be Trained* by J.C. Ryle
(pdf - <https://bibletruthpublishers.com>)

- *For the Children's Sake* by Susan Schaeffer Macaulay
- *Growing up Whitney* by Rick Whitney

- *Under Loving Command* by Pat Fabrizio
- *To Train up a Child* by Michael and Deborah Pearl

NOTES