

June 23, 2019



## GOD'S PLAN FOR PARENTS

### EPHESIANS 6:1-4 (NASB)

**TRUTH:** Children are commanded by God regarding an act: obey your parents, and an attitude: honor your father and your mother.

What's God's plan for parents?

#### I. DON'T MAKE YOUR KIDS MAD (Ephesians 6:4).

How do parents do this?

1. Over-protection
2. Favoritism
3. Pushing achievement

**INSIGHT:** A parent is foolish to attach their personal self-esteem to the performance of their children.

4. Bitter words

**TRUTH:** Sarcasm and ridicule are emotional cruelty and just as damaging as physical abuse.

LIVE/LEARN CHILD FORMATION PATHWAY:

1. Criticism/condemn
2. Hostility/fight
3. Ridicule/be shy, fearful
4. Shame/feel guilty
5. Intolerance/be angry

On the other hand:

1. Tolerance/be patient
2. Encouragement/confidence
3. Praise/to appreciate
4. Fairness/justice
5. Secure love/to trust
6. Approval/enjoy himself

#### II. BRING KIDS UP IN THE DISCIPLINE AND INSTRUCTION OF THE LORD ON SALVATION.

**INSIGHT:** Children don't follow the Lord by accident.

What every child needs to know about the Lord:

1. God is holy.
2. God hates sin.
3. God always punishes sin.
4. We are all sinners and cannot stand before God.
5. Their sin makes peace with God impossible.
6. Everyone is a sinner and worthy of death in hell.
7. Sinners can do nothing on their own to be right with God.
8. The Good News of hope is Jesus Christ.
9. Their only hope is to put all their faith and trust for heaven in Jesus.
10. Our kids must come to God and ask Him to forgive them and turn from sinful living.

### III. CRUCIAL LESSONS FROM PROVERBS FOR KIDS

1. Fear the Lord (Proverbs 1:7, 3:5).

**TRUTH:** To fear the Lord is to worship Him.

2. Guard your mind (Proverbs 3:3, 4:23).

3. Select your friends (Proverbs 1:10).

**TRUTH:** Your children should select friends, not be selected.

4. Control your body (Proverbs 5:22).

**TRUTH:** Any sex act not between a husband and wife is immorality; it is sin.

5. Watch your words (Proverbs 4:24, 10:19, 10: 21, 15:4).

**TRUTH:** Our children must be taught that their lives should improve the lives of others by what they say.

6. Pursue work (Proverbs 6:6).

7. Manage your money (Proverbs 3:9-10, 6:1).

8. Serve your neighbors (Proverbs 3:27).