

Parenting - Instruction
Biblical Soul-Care Workshops

Week 9
 Session 2



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Teaching your Children

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the **discipline and instruction** of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

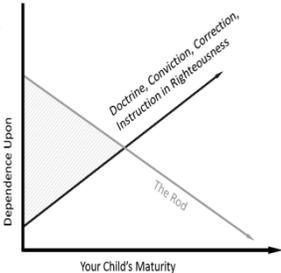
The question isn't, "*Are you a teacher?*", it's "What *kind of* teacher are you?" Parents can be hopeful because it is "*the instruction of the Lord.*" that they are to be giving. God stands ready to give all the grace, wisdom, and insight that parents need to obey Him!

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Teaching your Children

Consider these questions:

- 1) What will happen if a child receives all discipline and no teaching?
- 2) What will happen if a child receives all teaching and no discipline?



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I. Why Do Parents Need To Teach Their Children?

A. Each parent is responsible to God & will give an account.

How do the following verses help parents understand their responsibility to teach their children?

Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children (Deut. 4:9)

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I. Why Do Parents Need To Teach Their Children?

B. Each child has a sin nature and needs to be taught - Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned (Rom. 5:12)



"Total depravity" doesn't mean a child is as bad as he/she could be, but that *every aspect* of that person (thinking, motives, emotions, actions, etc.) are affected by the curse of sin. Proverbs warns "*a child left to himself brings his mother to shame.*"

Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him. (Pr. 22:15)

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I. Why Do Parents Need To Teach Their Children?

C. God's way of life is best and essential for a blessed life.



Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Ps. 1:1-3)

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I. Why Do Parents Need To Teach Their Children?

D. A parent is a “disciple-maker.” (Matt. 28:19-20)
 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

This has discipling applications to the church **AND** to the home!
 Why is the home both the *starting* place and *most effective* place for discipleship?

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

“And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.” (Deut. 6:6-7)

At what times does this text tell us parents are to teach?

Teaching is more than relating information, it requires time, involvement and modeling.

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

A. Foundational principles

1. Be Christ-like (week 8, Communication)
2. Be quick to listen, slow to speak (week 8, Communication)
3. Gather information wisely (week 3)
4. Remember the biblical goals of soul care (week 1)
 1. Perspective
 2. Purpose
 3. Learning
 4. Responding

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

B. Ask “S.M.A.R.T.” questions before you teach &/or correct, etc.; don’t lecture.

1. S. Situation – what was/is going on?
2. M. Mind – what you were/are thinking?
3. A. Action – What did you do as a result of your thoughts?
4. R. Results – What was the result of your actions?
5. T. Trophy – Did you get what you wanted? Did God get what God wanted from you in that situation?

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

C. Specific question and answers for parents to help your children think biblically with good questions (questions teach and reveal the heart).

1. *What are some possible reasons God orchestrated this trial?*
2. *What do you believe God is trying to teach you?*
3. *What will be the results when you have a job and don’t obey authority?*
4. *What did your friend do to cause you to come to this conclusion about him/her?*
5. *What will be the result if you make that decision?*
6. *What will be the result if you don’t?*

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

D. Intentional training thru normal life situations
 train & shape their thinking, attitudes, responses, etc.
model, model, model

1. In crisis, e.g. school problems (fights, peer pressure to drink or be sexually active, rebellion)
2. In conflicts between siblings, family, friends, culture, news (use James 4 to teach why we do what we do; idolatry vs. true worship)
3. In decisions, while considering options, (which college, taking a job, best use of time, places to go)
4. Modeling trust, meekness, contentment vs. complaining & coveting (handling materialism, coveting clothes, etc.)

3 general areas of human temptation Gen. 3; Matt. 4; Lu. 4; 1 Jn.2:15-17)

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

- D. Intentional training thru normal life situations (cont')
5. Dating and friendships (offending someone or being offended, personal dating standards, etc.)
6. Other parental teaching opportunities:
- Work (work ethic, working conditions, expectations, etc.)
 - Homework and school projects (completing assignments on time, being organized; respecting others)
 - Church, relationships (serving, listening, blessing, prayer)
 - Birth of a sibling (opportunity to serve, be a good example, etc.)
 - Vacations (who gets to do what and when, places to go, purpose of the trip, cost, etc.)
 - Death of a loved one or physical illnesses

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

- E. The effects of your example

How does a parent's example affect a child in thinking and behavior in the following areas?

- *Marital unity?*
 - *Church involvement and ministry?*
 - *Anger?*
 - *Giving?*
 - *Thankfulness?*
 - *Returning good for evil?*
- "The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things; and the God of peace shall be with you." (Phil. 4:9)

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

- F. Consistent, intentional family "worship time"
- Be unified, work as a team – communicate about the best time, methods, etc.
 - Choose a good time and have some alternatives in mind.
 - Provide something for each age.
 - Be clear on expectations for involvement from your children.
 - Settle any unresolved conflicts before you begin (Matt. 5:23-24).

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

6. Be Prepared and holistic
- Keep it simple.
 - Study, be prepared, discuss specific verses or principles regarding specific needs and goals.
 - List each child's strengths and weakness, encourage strengths, offer practical suggestions for growing in areas of weakness.
 - Vary styles of family worship (singing, testimonies, Bible verses, current events, etc.).
 - Family worship is only one aspect of training

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II. How Do Parents Teach Their Children?

- G. Use other sources as a **support, not a replacement**

You may choose the home, private school, public school, or any combination for teaching, however you are primarily responsible. Your child's Sunday School teaching does not replace your home as the *primary* site and responsibility for biblical instruction.

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III. What Is a Parent To Teach?

"This book of the law [i.e. God's Word] shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success." (Josh. 1:8)

- Salvation and Christian growth (sanctification)
- Foundational truths
- Practical, age-appropriate truths for everyday life
- Discernment and finding God's will

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III.A – Teaching the Gospel & Growth

- A. The character of **God** and Christ (Eph. 1-3; Ex. 34:6)
- B. The depravity of their hearts (**Man & Sin**)
- C. Their desperate need of a Savior (**Christ**) (Rom. 1-3)
- D. How to be saved (**grace & response**) – Repent and Believe the Gospel (Rom. 3:9-25; 6:23; Eph. 2:1-9; Jn. 1:12; Rom. 10:9-13)
- E. How to grow to become more like Christ. (**results**) (Ja. 1:13-15; Eph. 4:22-24; Rom. 6:11-13; 1 Tim. 4:7)

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III.B - Teaching Foundational Truths

- A. The Word of God is the complete revelation of God to your child and as such is the “final and ultimate, authoritative source”¹ of truth, and any and all other relevant sources of information must be used in accord with Truth.
- B. Build on your child’s created awareness of God (Rom. 2:12-16) and *cultivate* the awareness of God as Creator, Truth-giver, Sustainer, Savior and Judge.
- C. (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3; Ps. 119:9-11; Jn. 17:17)

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III.B - Teaching Foundational Truths

“Evangelical, systematic theology is the comprehensive study and coherent organization of what can be known (primarily from scripture, that is, theology’s only final and ultimate, authoritative source and secondarily from any and all other relevant sources) about God and his relation to the created universe in a manner that is understandable and applicable to contemporary audiences; to the end that God’s people will be strengthened and satisfied in Him to the praise of his glory of his name.” Bruce Ware
Theological Prolegomena

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III.B - Teaching Foundational Truths (cont)

- D. Teach them that they live every moment in the face of God (Acts 17:28) and will stand and give an account to God
 1. applies to all humanity, in all of life - “Thou God seest me” (Gen. 16:13 KJV)
 2. applies to believers at the *Judgment Seat of Christ* (2 Cor. 5:10)
 3. applies to unbelievers at the *Great White Throne* (Rev. 20:11-15)
- E. Teach them that God guides with His Eye on them.
 1. I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. (Ps. 32:8)
 2. Who is the man who fears the Lord? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose (Ps. 25:12)

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III.C – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths

Parents take hope, God gave one source of truth for parenting all ages of children...contrary to popular belief, all children come with an instruction manual!

The focus of parenting in all ages is the heart!

1. For Children (0-5 YOA), focus on authority
2. For Youth (6-12 YOA), focus on developing character qualities
3. For Teens (13-18 YOA), focus on training for gospel-controlled life-skills for independence and ministry!

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III.C.1 – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths (0-5 Year-olds)

- a. Focus on training to respect and obey **Authority** – we must teach them how to be a person under authority (Eph. 6:1-2).
- b. Focus on training for **Obedience** – teach them to live in submission to God’s authority that results in obedience... doing what he/she is told – the first time and without excuse, complaint, or question.
- c. Focus on training them to show **Honor** – as they submit to God’s authority that results in speech towards his/her authorities with respect for their role as God’s agent for change, direction, and discipline.

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III.C.1 – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths (0-5 Year-olds) (con't)

- d. Children are never to be allowed to be in authority
- e. Forbid speaking in "command mode" to parents (or anyone in authority), call them names, use unloving or bitter tone of voice, show disrespect (like facial expressions), or a lack of submission.
- f. Result - blessing from being under the umbrella of authority, **commandment with promise**

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III.C.1 – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths (0-5 Year-olds) (con't)

g. Implications of authority-submission

<p><u>Submission to God's Authority</u></p> <p>Protection</p> <p><i>Obedience</i></p> <p><i>Honor</i></p> <p><i>Humility</i></p> <p><i>Spiritual Growth</i></p> <p><i>Learning</i></p> <p><i>Grace</i></p> <p><i>Stability/Assurance</i></p>	<p><u>Rebellion to God's Authority</u></p> <p>Reproofs of Life</p> <p><i>Disobedience</i></p> <p><i>Dishonor</i></p> <p><i>Pride</i></p> <p><i>No Spiritual Growth</i></p> <p><i>Stubbornness</i></p> <p><i>Wrath</i></p> <p><i>Uncertainty/Fear</i></p>
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III.C.2 – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths (6-12 Year-olds)

This could also be called the age of communication. Children in this age group are capable of learning quickly and learning a lot. Their communication and ability to understand are at a very high level. They have a lot of questions and can interact and apply truth. Habits can be quickly established and/or broken.

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III.C.2 – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths (6-12 Year-olds)

Focus on developing the character of the heart

- a. Attentiveness - Showing respect through giving undivided attention to others in conversation
 - Opposite: Lack of concern and love, disrespect
- b. Initiative - Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before being asked
 - Opposite: Unresponsiveness; lack of love/concern

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III.C.2 – Teaching Practical, Age-appropriate Truths (6-12 Year-olds)

Focus on developing the character of the heart

- c. Contentment - Meek realization that God provides everything needed for my joy
 - Opposite: Covetousness, discontentment, greed
- d. Gratefulness - Intentional thanksgiving to God and others for blessings received
 - Opposite: Unthankfulness, bitterness, self-pity

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IV. Where to Begin

Remember: No one can change ten things at once. Look over the list, pick one area you believe God would say your child needs to grow in the most. Work at communicating those truths, commit to baby-steps in that goal (2 Cor. 3:18). Give yourself and your child grace in growing. You need to learn to change as much as or more than they do; ask God to help you model these principles to your child(ren). Be patient and pray for daily grace.

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IV. Where to Begin

1. To be attentive, obedient, and to honor parents – (Eph 6:1-3)
2. To understand important truths
3. To be good stewards – (1 Cor 4:2; Matt 25)
4. To communicate to solve problems – (Eph 4:15, 25-32)
5. To make decisions based on God's Word – (Josh 1:8)
6. To handle temptation biblically – (Eph 6:10; Matt 4; 1 Thess 4:1-8)

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IV. Where to Begin?

7. To love and serve others – (1 Jn. 3:18; Phil. 2:5-11)
8. To begin the day with praise – (Ps. 118:24)
9. To handle trials biblically – (Ja. 1:2-4; 1 Pet. 1; Heb. 12:5-15)
10. To return good for evil – (Rom. 12:17-21)
11. To seek and grant forgiveness – (Matt. 5:23-24; Eph. 4:32; Matt. 7:1-5; Matt. 18:15-17)
12. To deny himself/herself – (Lu. 9:23)

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IV. Where to Begin?

13. To be content – (1 Tim. 6:6)
14. To make disciples – (Matt. 28:18-20)
15. To understand the place of the local church and pastors – (Eph. 4:11-16)
16. To be a good spouse and parent – (1 Pet. 3:7; Eph. 5:23-25, 33; Gen. 2:18)
17. To respect and obey authority – (1 Pet. 2:13-24; Rom. 13:1-7)

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Going Deeper

Withhold not Correction
Teach them Diligently
Don't make me count to three
Shepherding a Child's Heart
The Heart of Anger
Your Family God's Way
Age of Opportunity

Bruce Ray
Priolo
Plowman
T. Tripp
Priolo
Mack
P. Tripp

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Quality	Opposite	Definition
Attentiveness	Unconcern	Showing respect for a person by giving undivided attention to what he is saying.
Obedience	Willfulness	Freedom to be creative under the protection of divinely appointed authority
Contentment	Covetousness	Realizing God has provided everything I need for my present happiness
Orderliness	Disorganization	Preparing myself and my surroundings for greatest efficiency

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Contentment	Covetousness	Realizing God has provided everything I need for my present happiness
Orderliness	Disorganization	Preparing myself and my surroundings so that I will achieve the greatest efficiency
Reverence	Disrespect	Awareness of how God is working through the people and events in my life to produce the character of Christ in me.
Forgiveness	Rejection	Giving up my right to remember or get revenge for a hurt done to me.
Gratefulness	Ungrateful	Making it known to God and to others in what ways I have benefited by His grace.
Faith	Presumption	Using God's Word to understand how He wants me to respond to a given situation and acting in harmony with it.
Truthfulness	Deception	Earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts.
Security	Anxiety	Structuring my life around what is eternal and cannot be destroyed or taken away.
Meekness	Anger	Yielding my personal rights and expectations to God.
Cautiousness	Rashness	Knowing how important biblical thinking and planning is in accomplishing right actions.
Patience	Recklessness	Accepting a difficult situation from God without giving Him a deadline to remove it.
Dependability	Inconsistency	Fulfilling what I consented to do even if it means unexpected sacrifice.
Determination	Fairheartedness	Purposing to accomplish God's goals in God's timing regardless of opposition.
Integrity	Deceit	Showing a high esteem for other people and their time.
Discernment	Judgment	Knowing the difference between good and evil.
Loyalty	Unfaithfulness	Using adversity to confirm my commitment to those whom God has called me to serve.
Compassion	Indifference	Concern for others demonstrated by actions that help them grow and glorify God.
Alertness	Unawareness	Ability to anticipate right responses to that which is taking place around me.
Firmness	Unrigidity	Not being moved or shaken by others' words that which violates biblical absolutes.
Responsibility	Irresponsibility	Knowing and carrying out the biblical expectations of God and those in authority.
Virtue	Impurity	The purity of thought and actions that are produced in my life from obedience to God's Word.
Prudence	Impatience	Making a decision after carefully and biblically evaluating the request of each person involved.
Frugality	Profligacy	Being wise in wise management of specific character qualities in every degree of maturity.
Trustworthiness	Selfishness	The satisfaction that results from genuine harmony with God and biblical relationships with others.
Wisdom	Natural profligacy	Being and responding to life situations from God's frame of reference.
Humility	Selfishness	Being and acting in ways that show how God and others are equally responsible for the accomplishments in my life.
Love	Selfishness	Doing to others without having an intrinsic personal reward.
Initiative	Unresponsiveness	Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it.
Discipline	Irresponsibility	Learning to identify and avoid excess, excess and attitudes which are not honoring to God.
Religiosity	Selfishness	Recognizing every responsibility as a special assignment from the Lord and using all my energies to accomplish it.
Discernment	Unbiblical conduct	The habit of making biblical decisions and being firm on biblical principles.
Steadfastness	Unsteadfastness	Recognizing a task in the Bible as a special assignment that is guided by biblical principles.
Endurance	Giving up	Using God's grace to continue pleasing Him in both routine and difficult circumstances.
Security	Impurity	Exposure to do what is right with transparent and pure motives.