

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN'S HEARTS

When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

Mark 10:14 (NIV)

Teach your children to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it.

Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)

Depend on this: God keeps his word even when the whole world is lying through its teeth.

Scripture says the same: Your words stand fast and true; Rejection doesn't faze you.

Romans 3:4 (MSG)

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

❖ What God's Word Says About LIFE:

They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood.

Psalm 106:38 (NIV)

1. Life is SACRED.

So God created man in his own image...

Genesis 1:27 (NIV)

What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? ⁵You made him a little lower than the heavenly being and crowned him with glory and honor.

Psalm 8:4-5 (NIV)

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:14 (NIV)

2. Life is a GIFT from GOD.

"Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man."

Genesis 9:6 (NIV)

3. Life BEGINS in the WOMB.

I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my spokesman to the world.

Jeremiah 1:5 (NLT)

You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Psalm 139:16 (NLT)

❖ What God's Word Says About GENDER:

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27 (NIV)

1. The Bible clearly states there are 2 genders, MALE and FEMALE.

2. Realize that PSYCHOLOGY doesn't change ONTOLOGY.

- Men and Women's CHROMOSOMES are different.
- Men and Women's BRAINS are different.
- Men and Women's REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEMS are different.

3. We must respond to all people with LOVE and GRACE.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Luke 10:27 (NIV)

I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. ²⁴What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God-- through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 7:23-25a (NIV)

❖ What God's Word Says About SEXUALITY/MARRIAGE:

The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." ... ²¹So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." ²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Genesis 2:18, 21-24 (NIV)

1. Marriage was the first of the FOUR INSTITUTIONS God created for mankind.

2. God's intent for men and women who are married is to POPULATE the earth.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Genesis 1:27-28 (NIV)

3. God's Word clearly PROHIBITS homosexuality and warns of its CONSEQUENCES.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ... ²¹For

although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ...²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ...²⁶Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

Romans 1:18-19, 21, 24, 26-27 (NIV)

For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Romans 3:23 (NLT)

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

Luke 6:37 (NIV)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)

❖ Three Simple Steps:

1. PRAY with your children every day.
2. TALK to your children about the dangers of this world.
3. TEACH your children to trust God's Word.