

BE THE PARENT

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—³ "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." ⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:1-4 (NIV)

❖ Parents Lead BIBLICALLY.

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

Exodus 20:12 (NIV)

1. Teach them to LOVE the LORD.

Place My words on your hearts. Get them deep inside you. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning until you fall into bed at night.

Deuteronomy 11:18-19 (MSG)

2. Teach them to LIVE in PURITY.

God wants you to live a pure life. Keep yourselves from sexual promiscuity.

1 Thessalonians 4:3 (MSG)

How can a young person live a clean life? By carefully reading the map of your Word.

Psalms 119:9 (MSG)

3. Teach them to be FINANCIALLY FREE.

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV)

❖ Parents Lead CONSISTENTLY.

Above all, my brothers, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned.

James 5:12 (NIV)

1. Your children need to see you DISCIPLINE with LOVE.

A refusal to correct is a refusal to love; love your children by disciplining them.

2. Your children need to have CLEAR BOUNDARIES.

Discipline your children while there is hope. If you don't, you will ruin their lives.

Proverbs 19:18 (NLT)

3. You must respond QUICKLY and APPROPRIATELY when they challenge authority.

Don't be afraid to correct your young ones; a spanking won't kill them.

Proverbs 23:13 (MSG)

- ❖ Parents Lead Toward ETERNITY.

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)

1. Guide them toward a PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP with God.

But watch out! Be very careful never to forget what you have seen the Lord do for you. Do not let these things escape from your mind as long as you live! And be sure to pass them on to your children and grandchildren.

Deuteronomy 4:9 (NLT)

2. Lead them away from the DANGEROUS FOLLY of this WORLD.

In the future, when you have children and grandchildren and have lived in the land a long time, do not corrupt yourselves by making idols of any kind. This is evil in the sight of the Lord your God and will arouse His anger.

Deuteronomy 4:25 (NLT)

3. Let them see the PRIORITY of CHRIST in your life.

Even while these people were worshiping the Lord, they were serving their idols. To this day their children and grandchildren continue to do as their fathers did.

2 Kings 17:41 (NIV)

- ❖ Closing Truth: There is an ULTIMATE REWARD when we lead our children well.

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

3 John 1:4 (NIV)

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

Psalms 37:25 (NIV)