

And Then We Had Kids
Parenting Young Children by Design not Default
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Psalms 127:1

**Unless the LORD builds the house,
its builders labor in vain. NIV**

*When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why.
How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can
do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?*

Foundation

- Our personal walk
John 14:21

1 John 5:11-13

- Our marriage
Ephesians 5:25-28

1 Peter 3:7

Genesis 2:20, 24

Why are we concerned about raising godly children?
Ephesians 6:4

1 Corinthians 4:22

Matthew 28:19-20

3 John 3-4

What is Biblical Fathering?

Three levels of fathering

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

“And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse.” Malachi 4:6

How to Connect Emotionally with Your Kids

Talking

Listening

Touching

High Energy Activities

Interests

Special Treats

Partnering

Praise

New Times in Your Child's Life

Traumatic Events

Correcting Wisely

Focus on teaching instead of justice.

Use sorrow instead of anger.

Prepare for discipline times by planning consequences.

Talk about character, not just behavior.

Developing trusting relationships

A father must set the spiritual tone for the family.

Ephesians 5:23

Colossians 1:9

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

A father must understand and earn the right to enter his child's private world.

A father must keep his promises.

A father must be the family encourager.

What do we do when we have blown it?

The first step is to tell God that we want to change.

We need to seek forgiveness not only from our children but also from our wife

Work to strengthen your husband-wife relationship.

Invite your wife or your children to have the freedom to work on your weaknesses.

Galatians 6:1

Parenting Resources:

Parenting is Heart Work by Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller

National Center for Biblical Parenting has a website, parent@biblicalparenting.org, from which a free e-mail can be sent called EFFECTIVE PARENTING TIPS. Many other resources are also available at this website.

Ten Basic Steps of Correction

1. Establish responsibility for disobedience. Ask "What did you do?" not "Why?"
2. Get alone. Avoid embarrassment and outside interference. (Matthew 18:15)
3. Communicate parental grief over the offense, project this by facial expression. Sit down with them in silence, the goal is to bring them to repentance. This gives *you* a chance to cool down and *them* an opportunity to reflect.
4. Associate love and correction; compare it to God's love (Hebrews 12:6). Never discipline out of personal irritation or wounded pride, do not try to "get even".
5. Establish God as the final authority and emphasize parental authority. God sees all (Genesis 16:13). "I have to answer to God if I do not correct you".
6. Use a neutral object...a rod, NOT a hand or a belt. We do not want them to associate our hand with pain or hurt. Use the same paddle each time, if possible. As you go to get it, it both calms you down and warns the child. (Proverbs 10:13; 13:24; 22:15; 23:13-14; 26:3)
7. Discipline until the will is broken, NOT the spirit. Don't overcorrect. Do the least amount that is needed to break the will. (Proverbs 19:18)
8. Comfort the child after the correction through love, words and your presence. Reassure their acceptance. Never send them away to a room.
9. Discuss any restitution and establish the child's responsibility to ask forgiveness.
10. Evaluate your correction and your child's response to it. Always express humility. If you were angry or embarrassed, then ask the child's forgiveness later when you are calm.

Sunday—In Wisdom—Intellect and Righteousness

1. That my children would develop keenness of mind and clarity of thinking. That they would be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. (Matt. 10:16)
2. That the Lord would guard their minds from Satanic, worldly and carnal influences. (II Cor. 11:3)
3. That they have a heart to learn from their parents, that they be teachable. Eph. 6:4, Prov. 1:8-9 LB
4. Purity of heart and mind, to be filled with righteousness. (Prov. 4:23)
5. Thank the Lord for the gracious gift of your children and how He is using them in your life to mold you into the image of Christ. (Psalm 127:3-5, Gen. 33:5)

Tuesday—In Stature—Physically

1. That they be safe from evil and tragedy and from godless people whom God has turned over to a reprobate mind. (Psalm 138:7, 34:7)
2. Our children would stay pure. (Psalm 24:4, Job 17:9)
3. That they be strong and in good health (Prov. 15:30)
4. That they gain godly stature and be mighty of spirit. (I Sam. 10:26—men of valor whose hearts God had touched)
5. That God would enrich their lives with quality and memorable experiences. (Prov. 3:1-2)

Monday—In Wisdom—Socially and Educationally

1. God would place a protective hedge around our children so strong that Satan cannot enter and lead them into temptation. (Psalm 33:20, Job 1:10)
2. Our children would use godly wisdom in selecting their friends, for friends and peers do make a difference. (Prov. 1:10, Deut. 13:6-8, I Cor. 15:33)
3. They will be alert and thinking as they attend school and take exams and they will be motivated to do the best they are capable of doing. (Col. 3:23, I Cor. 10:31)
4. Pray for your children's teachers (school, church, etc.), coach and principal that God would give them wisdom in teaching, ability to communicate, fairness, patience and a soft heart for God. (Col. 1:9-12)

Wednesday—In favor with God—Spiritually

1. That Christ would be the Lord of their life. (Luke 6:46, 14:26-27)
2. That God would give them a hunger for His word. (I Peter 2:2)
3. That God would fill their hearts with zeal for Christ and His kingdom. (John 2:17)
4. That they will be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 5:18)
5. Their lives will count for God and He will use them as a testimony and witness for His glory. Ask that they exceed us, not materially or educationally, but in their spiritual walk! (Psalm 103:17-18, Isa. 54:13, Psalm 78:1-8)

Thursday – In favor with man – socially

1. That they have gracious speech. (Col. 4:6)
2. That they develop a love for righteousness and moral purity (I John 2:15-16)
3. That they will be caught if they wander into cheating, lies or mischief. (Prov. 20:30)
4. That they develop an attractive lifestyle based on principles of scripture.
Faithfulness – Prov. 20:6
Loyal – Prov. 3:4
Skillful – Prov. 22:29
Resourceful – Ps. 1:3
Hard working – Ps 1:3
Reliable and honest – Lk. 8:15, Titus 3:1
Of good repute – Prov. 22:1
5. That they learn to appreciate correction, reproof and wisdom. (Prov. 9:9, 12:1)
6. That they share Christ and lead many to Christ. (Isa.12)

Saturday – For Sons or Son-in-laws (present or future)

1. That God would develop leadership qualities in their lives by giving them a clear vision of His will based on His word, and produce in them honesty, faithfulness, a servant's heart, generosity, humility, loyalty, courage, compassion and skill. (Ps 78:70-72)
2. A holy life above reproach. (I Tim. 3:2)
3. That they would stay morally pure. (I Cor. 6:19-20)
4. A godly wife. (Prov. 31:10)
5. Knit my heart to their hearts for life. (I Sam. 18:1)

Friday – For daughters or daughter-in-law (present or future)

1. That they grow to be sensible, chaste, domestic, kind and submissive. (Titus 2:5)
2. That they acquire the imperishable jewel of a gentle and quiet spirit. (I Peter 3:4)
3. Remove fears and replace them with a quiet confidence. (I Peter 3:6, Prov. 3:5)
4. Security in Christ, His protection, His provision, His completeness (John 10:28, Heb. 13:6)
5. A godly husband. (Ps. 128:14)
6. That God would knit her heart to mine for life. (I Sam. 18:1)