

## **The Godly Man As A Father** *Responsibilities To Our Children*

*“Your children are God's assignment or commission, and He does not waste children on parents. He knows the very kind to send you. Did you think God gave you children because of what you could do for them? That's only one part. He gave them because of what they could do for you. You can meet your children's particular needs and they can meet yours in a unique and special way.”*  
- Howard Hendricks

1. What are the various words used in Psalm 127 to describe children? .....

What do each of these words mean to you? .....

2. Who is responsible for training the children?

- a. Proverbs 1:8 .....
- b. Proverbs 29:15-17 .....

What is the mother's responsibility? .....

3. What are the parents' responsibilities in the following verses:

- a. Ephesians 6:4 .....
- b. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 .....
- c. Proverbs 2:1, 3:1, 4:1, 5:1, 7:1 .....

4. How are we to love our children?

- a. Matthew 3:17 .....
- b. Genesis 22:2 .....
- c. II Samuel 18:33 .....
- d. Luke 8:40-42 & 49-56 .....
- e. I Corinthians 13:4-7 .....

5. Define the following terms:

- a. Teach .....
- b. Instruct .....
- c. Train .....
- d. Discipline .....

6. What does Psalm 127:3 teach us concerning our responsibility? .....

7. What are children like?

- a. I Corinthians 14:20 .....
- b. I Corinthians 3:1-3 .....
- c. Mark 10:15 .....

8. A lack of security plagues the younger generation today. They are grasping for something stable, unmoveable, and real. From the following Scriptures, list some things we can do as a parent to help our children be secure

- a. Proverbs 22:6 .....
- b. Proverbs 14:26 (Living) .....
- c. II Corinthians 1:17-19 (Living) .....
- d. Matthew 18:10-14 .....
- e. Proverbs 3:11-12 .....

9. What is the learning process?

- a. James 1:2-4 .....
- b. II Peter 1:12-15 .....

Note the spiral of learning: repetition, experience, relearning, experience and so forth. This should produce progressive change upward toward more complete understanding.

10. Where else do children learn apart from the home?

- a. Proverbs 1:10-14 .....
- b. Psalm 119:105 .....
- c. John 14:26 .....
- d. I Samuel 12:23 .....

11. Read Hebrews 12:5-11 in at least three translations. Then record what, to you, are the four most important aspects of this passage.

- a. ....
- b. ....
- c. ....
- d. ....

12. Match the following Scriptures with the principles involved regarding discipline: Matthew 5:37; Proverbs 13:24; Ecclesiastes 5:5; Genesis 37:3; James 1:8; Acts 10:34; Proverbs 23:13-14; Proverbs 25:28; Proverbs 18:13; Ecclesiastes 8:11

<i>Principles</i>	<i>Scriptures</i>
Expression of love	.....
Don't nag	.....
Be consistent	.....
Be fair	.....
Be impartial	.....
Use an inanimate object	.....
Fulfill every promise	.....
Don't lose your temper	.....
Get the facts	.....
Do it now	.....

13. What can be the result of undisciplined children?

- a. I Samuel 3:13 .....
- .....
- b. Titus 1:16, I Timothy 3:4 .....
- .....
- c. Proverbs 29:15 .....
- .....
- d. Proverbs 19:18 (Living) "Discipline your son in his early years while there is hope. If you don't you will ruin his life." .....
- .....

**Proper discipline is a crying need of every child.**

14. What are some of the reasons fathers do not discipline their children? .....

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15. Children also need encouragement. Match the ways of encouragement with the following Scriptures: James 1:19; Proverbs 31:26; Ecclesiastes 3:1; John 21:3-6; Mark 3:14; 1 John 3:18

<i>Ways of Encouragement</i>	<i>Scriptures</i>
Be kind and understanding	.....
Listen to them	.....
Take time for them	.....
Take time with them	.....
Be interested in their interests	.....
Show your love and approval	.....

16. In what ways have your children been a spiritual blessing to you? .....

17. From the following examples from the Word of God, what would you say is one of the greatest influences in forming a child's character? John 4:53, Job 1:5, Mark 5:22-24, 41, 42

18. Write in these columns what you feel your strengths and weaknesses are as a parent.

*Strengths*

*Weaknesses*

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**Suggestions For Further Study**

- Tape 1150AB - Child Rearing - Part 1, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 1151AB - Child Rearing - Part 2, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 1152AB - Child Rearing - Part 3, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 971A - Disciplining Your Child, Joe Temple
- Tape 971B - Restricting Your Child, Joe Temple
- Tape 26 - Parent-Child Relationship, George Sanchez
- Tape 1064 - Spiritual Goals for the Child, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1065 - The Child's Two Needs: Love and Discipline, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1807 - Priesthood of Parents - Part 1, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1808 - Priesthood of Parents - Part 2, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1811 - God's Order for Parents - Part 1, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1812 - God's Order for Parents - Part 2, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1965 - God's Order for Children, Larry Christensen

Parents on the Run by Willard & Marguerite Beecher, Julian Press  
Dare to Discipline by James Dobson, Tyndale House  
Children, Fun or Frenzy by Mr. and Mrs. Al Fabrizio, Box 182, Palo Alto, California  
Heaven Help the Home, by Howard Hendricks, Victor Press  
Understanding Your Children, by Dr. Clyde Narramore, Zondervan publishers

# The Godly Man As A Father

## *Practical Helps*

### Principles for Your Life as a Parent

1. We can't make Christ a reality to them if He is not to us. II Timothy 1:5
2. Practice what you want them to practice. I Corinthians 11:1
  - a. Disciples are followers. Children follow and imitate us; we're making disciples after our own pattern of living. Philippians 4:9
  - b. If we want them to have our characteristics, have them around. Mark 3:14a
3. Pray for wisdom. James 1:5
4. Mom and Dad TOGETHER in discipline. Psalm 133:1
5. Encourage and support one another regarding the children. Deuteronomy 3:28a
6. Don't be touchy or over-protective regarding the children. Proverbs 28:25a
7. Prayer-keep the children committed. I Samuel 1:27, 28
8. Watch parental pride. It is easy to require too much when we want to make an impression. Philippians 2:3,4

### Principles for Encouragement

1. Be tolerant and understanding. Proverbs 31:26
2. Be a good listener. Give your undivided attention. James 1:19
3. Take time for them. Your presence means everything.
4. Plan family activities. Ecclesiastes 3:1
5. Consider them in family decisions.
6. Be interested in their interests. John 21:3-6
7. Be vocal in expressions of love. Let them know you love them and look for ways to show love. I John 3:18



### Principles for Discipline or Training

1. Discipline only in the principles. (disobedience, dishonesty, disrespect, untruthfulness, etc.) Proverbs 29:17
2. Discipline FIRMLY but NOT in temper. Colossians 3:21
3. Set realistic standards and requirements. Amos 7:7
  - a. Not too high. Don't expect too much ; it results in trouble. Superimposed spirituality now means carnality later. Matthew 15:8
  - b. Plan to keep them. Proverbs 13:19
  - c. Let children know what is expected. Be sure it is clear. Proverbs 22:6
  - d. Be consistent. James 1:6
  - e. Avoid "if you do that again" syndrome.
  - f. Don't expose them to public ridicule.
  - g. Don't indulge them.
  - h. Be willing to apologize when needed.
  - i. Don't nag.
4. Get children to help. I Samuel 16:11
5. The greatest thing parents can do for their children is to love one another.

## Acknowledgements



### *My special thanks:*

- *to my wife, Irma, who patiently kept telling me it could be done, and whose personal touch can be seen on every page.*
- *to my secretary, Marty Townsend Olson, for her grace to endure.*
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- *to Lorne Sanny and Charlie Riggs, without whose encouragement, faithfulness, prayers, and continuing investment in my life I would have had nothing to write.*
- *to the memory of my father, whose example and principles of life so shaped my own.*

*To All of these this Bible study is lovingly dedicated - **Gene Warr***

## **APPENDIX**

**SESSION 9A**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



1. What does the picture say to you? .....
2. Why is he there? .....
3. What is he thinking? .....
4. Who cares about him? .....



1. What is going on in the picture? .....
2. Where is it happening? .....
3. What is the crowd's reaction? .....
4. Who do you most identify with in the picture? .....

**SESSION 9B**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



1. What does the picture symbolize to you? .....
2. How could it relate to Christian character? .....
3. If you could change the picture, how would you do it? .....



1. What does the picture mean to you? .....
2. How does it relate to a guidance system in life? .....
3. Why do you think the picture was taken? .....

**SESSION 11A**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



1. What does the picture say to you? .....
2. How do you relate to the picture? .....
3. What lesson would you draw from it to share with others? .....



1. What does this picture remind you of? .....
2. How can you see yourself in the picture? .....
3. What does the picture say to you? .....

**SESSION 11B**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



1. How do you react to the picture? .....
2. How do you feel about it? .....
3. What do the two chairs mean? .....



1. What is happening in the picture? .....
2. What is the baby thinking? .....
3. If he could talk, what would he say? .....
4. How does this picture relate to the preceding picture? .....

**SESSION 12**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



- 1. What is the man doing? .....
- 2. Why is he doing it? .....
- 3. What does the picture say to you? .....
- 4. How can you see yourself in it? .....

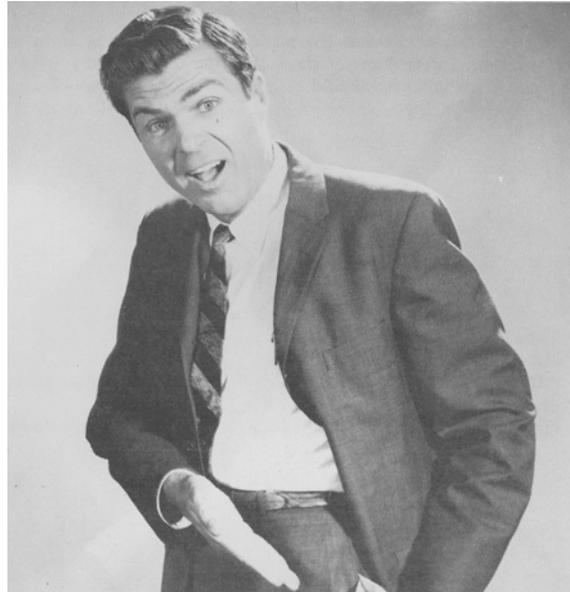


- 1. How is the globe symbolic? .....
- 2. What do you think the picture means? .....
- 3. What does it say to you? .....

**SESSION 13A**

How to Know God's Will by Marion H. Nelson - Moody Press

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them:



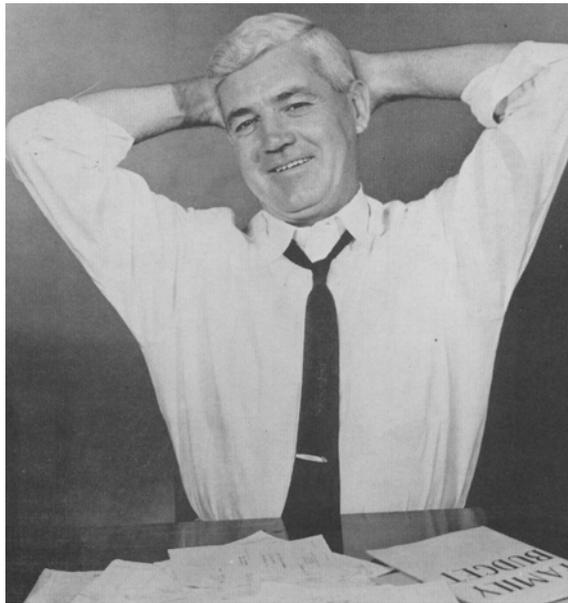
1. What is the picture saying? .....
  2. How did he get in such a shape? .....
  3. What advice would you give him? .....
- .....



1. What does it symbolize to you? .....
  2. How did he get in that shape? .....
  3. How can he escape? .....
  4. Do you ever feel like you are bound? ..... Explain .....
- .....

**SESSION 13B**

Study these picture and be prepared to answer the following questions about them:



1. Why is he happy? .....
2. What thoughts does a family budget bring to your mind? .....
3. What has he been doing? .....



1. Who do you think owns the cards? .....
2. Why do you think he carries them? .....
3. What problems, if any, do you sense in this picture? .....
4. How does the picture relate to you? .....

**SESSION 15A**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



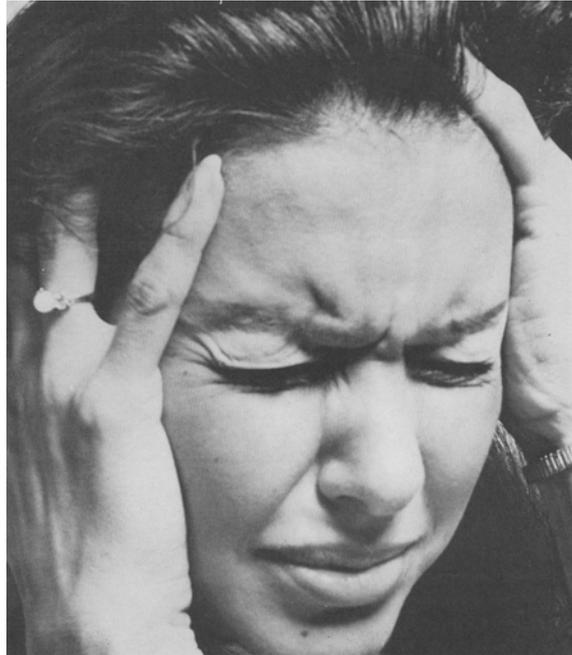
1. What does the picture say to you? .....
2. Where is he? .....
3. What is he doing? .....
4. What is he thinking? .....
5. What is he feeling? .....
6. What could you do to help him? .....



1. What has happened? .....
2. What is the problem? .....
3. What could you do to help? .....
4. How do you feel about it? .....

**SESSION 15B**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



- 1. What is happening? .....
- 2. What is causing her problem? .....
- 3. What is she feeling? .....
- 4. How could you help? .....



- 1. What is going on? .....
- 2. Why is the little boy doing it? .....
- 3. What lesson do you see in the picture? .....

SESSION 16

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



- 1. What is happening in each picture? .....
- 2. How do the pictures relate to each other? .....
- 3. What does each picture mean to the wife? .....
- 4. What do you feel about each picture? .....



- 1. What does each picture say to you? .....
- 2. Guess at the thoughts of each one of the people in the pictures .....
- 3. What is really happening; how can you identify with it? .....
- 4. Why is it important? .....

**SESSION 22**

Study these pictures and be prepared to answer the following questions about them.



1. Why are the children in such shape? .....
2. Where are their parents? .....
3. What are the children thinking? .....
4. What future do you feel they have? .....
5. How do you feel about the picture? .....



1. What does the picture say to you? .....