

Building into Your Life and Family with Godly Generations in Mind

Rich and Kathy Smith

The goal of Christian parenting is to reproduce spiritually generation after generation, to follow Christ Jesus as Lord, and to train their children to love the Lord wholeheartedly, with a proper concept of God.

I. Building Blueprint - God's Desire as expressed in God's Word

- A. Micah 6:8 - one who walks humbly w/Him
- B. Malachi 2:15 - godly children
- C. Psalm 78:5-8 - fathers to perpetuate the knowledge of God to children
- D. Colossians 2:6-8 protect against vain ideas
- E. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - to equip with a Biblical worldview

II. Foundation is Jesus Christ

- A. Faith in Jesus Christ
- B. Biblical obedience to Jesus Christ
 - i. Action precedes belief, for a child
 - ii. Obedience always important to God, Deut 5:29, Hebrews 12:5-11
 - 1. correction
 - 2. rebuke
 - 3. punishment
 - iii. Define 'obedience' - "is doing exactly what I am supposed to do, when I am supposed to do it, and with the right heart attitude."

III. Walls - Inside and Outside

- A. Responsibility - childrearing is a responsibility given to parents by God
 - i. Ephesians 6:4
 - ii. Deut 6:6-7
 - iii. Psalm 127:3-5
- B. Spiritual reproduction - law of sowing/reaping
 - i. Matthew 10:24-25
 - ii. Galatians 6:6-7

IV. Roof - Love

- A. Love of God and for God, Mark 12:30
- B. Love for others, Mark 12:31
- C. Love between parents, 1 Corinthians 13
- D. Daily abiding in Christ, John 15

V. Doors and Windows - Privacy/Comfort

- A. Safe haven
- B. Place of refuge
- C. Freedom to be vulnerable
- D. Learn to laugh

VI. House Construction - Parenting Styles

- A. House of Straw (child-centered)
 - i. Permissive
 - ii. Tends to be threatening/repeating
 - iii. Parental fear of losing the child's love/acceptance
 - iv. Child allowed to make decisions that belong to parents

- v. Dangers
- B. House of Wood (authoritarian-centered)
 - i. Legalistic
 - ii. Tends to use anger and force
 - iii. Parental fear of losing control
 - iv. Child has minimal rights or freedom to express opinions
 - v. Dangers
- C. House of Gold & Silver (Biblically balanced)
 - i. God's Word and His authority is the standard
 - ii. Goal is moral thinking, not simply moral actions
 - iii. Teaches the moral and practical reason why
 - iv. Stone of love languages
 - v. Influence of a godly father

VII. Home Building 101

- A. Assurance of salvation
- B. Learning to develop own walk with God - QT
- C. Discern right/wrong
- D. Serving others and work ethic
- E. Shows respect for people and property, authority and nature
- F. Handling money and time
- G. Ask and receive forgiveness
- H. Express love languages
- I. Age-appropriate life skills

VIII. Maintenance (and Safety) Issues

- A. Basic Ground Rules
- B. Insulation - Protection from the Elements
 - i. Childishness
 - ii. Foolishness
- C. Handy Tips about Daily Discipline
- D. Pest Control
 - i. Pride
 - ii. Exhaustion
 - iii. Attack
 - iv. Sin

IX. Building Supplies - Available resources, training and handouts

Resource List

Building into Your Life and Family with Godly Generations in Mind *Rich and Kathy Smith*

A Mother's Heart, Jean Fleming, NavPress, Colorado Springs, 1982.

Bringing Up Boys, Dr. James Dobson.

Child Training Tips, Reb Bradley, Family Ministries, Fair Oaks, 1995.

Created for Work, Bob Schultz, Great Expectations Book Co., Eugene, OR, 2006.

Dare to Discipline, Dr. James Dobson, Living Books, Wheaton, 1970.

Growing Kid's God's Way, Gary and Anne Marie Ezzo, Growing Families International Press, Chatsworth, 1995.

Hide and Seek, Dr. James Dobson, Fleming H. Revell, Old Tappan, 1987.

How to Develop Your Child's Temperament, Beverly LaHaye, Harvest House, Irvine, 1977.

Housekeeping Skills for Kids, Davidene Humphreys, Lifestyle Impact Ministries, Oklahoma City, OK, 2003.

Making Children Mind Without Losing Yours, Dr. Kevin Leman, Fleming H. Revell, Old Tappan, 1984.

Parenting Isn't for Cowards, Dr. James Dobson, Word Books, Waco, 1987.

The Blessing, Gary Smalley & John Trent, Ph.D., Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nashville, 1986.

The Book of Virtues, William J. Bennett, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1993.

The Family Meal Table and Hospitality, Nancy Campbell, Above Rubies, Franklin, TN, 1999.

The Five Love Languages for Children, Gary Chapman & Ross Campbell, M.D.

The Moral Compass, William J. Bennett, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1995.

The Obedient Child, Ken Wilson, Servant Books, Ann Arbor, 1988.

Understanding the Times, David Noebel, Summit Press, Manitou Springs, CO, 2006.

What Every Child Should Know Along the Way, Gail Martin, Growing Families International, Simi Valley, 1998.

Withhold Not Correction, Bruce A. Ray, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, 1978.