

## ***Raising Up Godly Children Part 1***

***“1 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: 2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. 4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.” (Deuteronomy 6:1-9 KJV)***

In the above chosen Scripture Moses was speaking to the leaders and the heads of the Israelites families and was conveying to them the teachings that he received from the Lord which was asked to teach to the Israelites. Moses was telling them to observe those teachings in the land that they are going to possess so that they will prosper. Moses made it also clear to them that not only themselves need to fear the Lord and obey His decrees and commands but as well as their children and their children's children after them as we can read here: ***“2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.” (Deuteronomy 6:2 KJV)*** The point that Moses made it very clear to them is that to enjoy long life, all of them needed to fear the Lord and keep all His decrees and commands. And in order that the blessings of the Lord will be transferred to their children and their children's children after them they needed to teach their children and discipline them according to the Word of God.

***“5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.” (Deuteronomy 6:5 KJV)*** Moses commanded them that they needed to love God with all their hearts that they need to give Him their full affection and devotion; that their hearts should be undivided between God the Creature and the created things, the substance, the mammon and the material things of this world. That they needed to love Him with all their souls, that they would translate such love into firm decisions according to the best of their minds, in favor of God and His will. And they needed to love Him with all their might, in which they will express their decision to follow God with deeds they do in their lives and that will be how they will love him with all their might, that they will do the works of God diligently, faithfully and in complete and perfect manner.

***“6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:” (Deuteronomy 6:6 KJV)*** that those commands and teachings should have great impacts and importance on their hearts that they should keep and do in their lives.

***“7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and***

***when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.” (Deuteronomy 6:7-9 KJV)*** That those commands of God needed to impressed them on their children, on their hearts and lives.

Therefore, it is the duty of the parents to teach their children the Word of God, and based on that we recommend that each and every family should gather daily to worship God and to read the Word of God, by reading one chapter from the Bible, from the beginning and in sequence, and to kneel down and pray. The Bible reading should be started from the book of Genesis, and in sequence until you will reach the end of the Bible, and then to repeat again. Therefore parents must know and follow the Word of God, so they will be the one to impart that to their children because God had given the parents the authority to teach and discipline their children with the Word of God as we can read here, ***“6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6 KJV)*** Parents are responsible to train their children in the right way of life. It is not the church primary responsibility but parent's duty to do that. The church is responsible to teach the parents and train them in the ways of the Lord, therefore we are responsible to train you how to train and teach your children and then you will be the one to train your children the way of the Lord. Let us expound how that to be done:

***“7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” (Deuteronomy 6:7 KJV)*** Moses taught the fathers that they needed to be teachers for their children and apply those commands in their lives at their homes, to bring them up in the nurture and the admonition of God's Word, as we read here also: ***“4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4 KJV)*** It means that fathers, mothers or parents should not let their children exposed to wrong things which will provoke them to sin against God. Instead, fathers, mothers or parents need to keep the atmosphere of the house Godly clean away from TV, mobiles and the Media, the world News, Playstations, electronic games, gadgets and other harmful tempted things that will let their children to sin. This is also includes that parents should not demand and ask the children more than what they can do and more than what God had asked from them. We need also not to forget to do our part and love and care for our children and reward them as they obey. Therefore fathers, mothers and parents needed to do the right things with their children, teaching those good things and as the following: ***“and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”*** That they needed to talk to their children about those commands of God when they will wake up and when they will sit to eat, the time they will go out with their children, and the time they will return home, and while doing their works in the house, the time they will retire to bed, and when they are in leisure and during the sabbath day. That they will use all those times to talk to their children to instruct and to teach them and help them to apply those commands. **In the same way, you need to teach your children the commands of God in the Bible and talk about them when you sit down in your home, when you get up from your bed, when you retire to sleep, when you go outside with them, and when you come back, and in your leisure times and in your holidays, that you need to teach them the commands of God and how to apply them in their lives.**

***“8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.” (Deuteronomy 6:8 KJV)*** That is when a man ties anything to his hand so he can remember and not forget to do something; so they will remember and not to forget to tell to their children. **In the same way it is of prime importance to you as parents to teach your children the Word of God and discipline them with His laws and commands.**

***“9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.” (Deuteronomy 6:9 KJV)*** Moses taught them that they needed to write those commands at the walls and the gates of their houses and the gates of their cities so they will not forget them but as they will read them they will be reminded of them, in order to teach them to their children to do them. **You are called to do all what you can to impart the Word of God to your children, and you may need to write certain Scriptures that you are teaching them to follow on papers and put on the walls and the gates of your house so your children will be continually reading them to be reminded of what they needed to do and apply in their lives.**

We need to apply the Word of God in the life of our children because that is the command of God and for His blessings to flow to us and to our children, as well as for the following reasons as the Scriptures tell us:

**1. *“23 He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.” (Proverbs 5:23 KJV)*** When you do not discipline your children and impart to them the Word of God and His teaching they will go astray and they will face death either spiritual death or a real physical death because they lack the instructions of God’s Word that brings life to them.

**2. *“17 He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.” (Proverbs 10:17 KJV)*** The instructions that you give to your children as you discipline them with and they will keep, those instructions will help them not to go into a wrong direction and be misled.

**3. *“1 Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.” (Proverbs 12:1 KJV)*** The instruction of God that you give to your children as you discipline them and they will keep will help them to have knowledge, and not to be brutish, for the children who are not disciplined are rough, fool, wild and violent.

**4. *“18 Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.” (Proverbs 13:18 KJV)*** When you discipline your children and impart to them the Word of God they will not be going into poverty and failures in life. Based on that people who are not corrected and disciplined from their childhood they are poor and have many failures and struggles in their education, career and work. But those who are disciplined they will be wealthy and honored.

**5. *“14 Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.” (Proverbs 23:14 KJV)*** Discipline and correction when you apply to your children then you are delivering them from hell. Children who are neither disciplined nor corrected and left to do what they want will end up in hell.

**6. *“15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.” (Proverbs 29:15 KJV)*** Discipline imparts wisdom and clear understanding to the child

to respect rules and peoples and to fear God and to honor and obey His Word. Otherwise if the child would be left without discipline then he will grow without any regard to the parents, to the peoples in society and to God’s Word. And sure he will do wrong things and this will bring disgrace for him and for his parents who gave him food but no discipline. ***“The rod and reproof give wisdom:”*** You need to discipline your children and use the rod to spank them so that you will impart wisdom to them. Notice here the reproof is with the rod to spank to impart wisdom, so if you will not use the rod then there is no wisdom imparted to your children. So here if you will not discipline your children and use rod to reproof them, then they will continue to do foolish things and bring shame to you later on in your life. Here mentioned the following: ***“but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.”*** That does not mean the mothers are responsible to spank the children alone and not the fathers, but that mentioned because at the time this Scripture written mothers were working inside the houses and the children most of the time were with them, and fathers were working outside, so here mothers were the main persons who the children were staying with, and so when mothers, condone the sins of their children and cover up their naughtiness, and refuse to spank them and refuse to report them to their husbands when they come home to spare them the rod of correction and reproof, those mothers finally will be put to shame. **Therefore, fathers and mothers, listen carefully, never cover up, condone, and tolerate the sins of your children so you will not be put to shame at the end.**

**7. *“17 Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.” (Proverbs 29:17 KJV)*** Every parent is expecting the best to have and to receive from their children, but the way to achieve and receive that is by imparting discipline to them. The outcome of balanced and careful discipline will bring peace and delight to the parents. **When you are careful to discipline your children they will give you peace and rest and they will be the delight of your soul.**

**All the above points that we discussed are good reasons for you to be motivated to go on in order to discipline and to deal with the sins and the naughtiness of your children.**

We read also, ***“22 A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.” (Proverbs 13:22 KJV)*** But what type of inheritance we can leave for our children; money or material things? This is needed but will be of limited value. What is the best that we can give to them also is the Word of God and to discipline them with, that they can follow and practice in their lives and be blessed.

***“15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.” (Proverbs 22:15 KJV)*** Here the Word of God tells us clearly when we found foolishness. Foolishness is found in the heart of the child. Therefore based on what God said there is no child without foolishness because foolishness is bound in the heart of a child. **So you cannot say that your children are not having foolishness.**

The question here is how you can get rid of the foolishness from the hearts of your children? The clear answer is by the rod of correction; for there is no correction can be done without using the rod. When the child disobeys the parents and wants to do what he likes that is his foolishness and it is bound in his heart. He likes to disobey, but there is a way that this foolishness can be removed, this is by spanking using the rod.

Spanking should be on the back or on the buttocks of the children to manage and deal with the child foolishness as we can read here, ***“29 Judgments are prepared for scorers, and stripes for the back of fools.” (Proverbs 19:29 KJV)*** Spanking should cause pain. The child should feel the pain and even to cry so he will be healed from his naughtiness and will not repeat that foolishness again. Some parents are not willing to use rod and spank their children because they don't want them to feel pain and cry, but God's Word encourage us to do that because it is for their benefit and that will perfect our love for them.

In addition to what we need to give them from food, shelter, and education, we should not forget to keep a rod to spank them and discipline them if they disobey God and go into wrong direction. Now homes are full of many appliances like refrigerators, cookers, water heaters, air conditions, fans, computers, mobiles, TV, satellites connection, washing machines, etc, but they lack rods for children to be spanked with. **Parents this is not correct. You need to do well by purchasing rods for your children.** Both of you parents should get involve in your children discipline using a rod and agreeing with one another about that. You need to put a clear rules, and in writing, for your children, and explained them well to them that when they will do certain wrong things, they will receive such number of rods on their buttocks or their lower back for such. You need to explain to them that this is the command of God and that you spank them because you love them, and you don't want them to go astray and end in hell because of their sins. Parents when your child do foolishness then bring him to the room and explain to him that you are going to spank him with this number of rods because of what he did of that foolishness. Ask him to give you his back or buttocks to spank him. Both parents can work, and certain times needed to work together to let the chastisement session to be successfully accomplished when the child resist the discipline. After the chastisement affirms to your child that you love him and that was your reason to discipline him with a rod.

***“18 Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.” (Proverbs 19:18 KJV)*** There will be hope for your children if you will apply rules to them from the Word of God and discipline them using the rod. **Do not spare the rod from your child if he is crying, and do not go with your emotions because you don't want your child to feel pain and to cry. Such will spoil him and will continue to encourage him to do wrong.**

The discipline with rod will not cause him death: ***“13 Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.” (Proverbs 23:13 KJV)*** If you refuse to spank your child with the rod according to God's Word you are not loving your child but you are hating him as we read here, ***“24 He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.” (Proverbs 13:24 KJV)*** If we really love our children with the love of God we will be careful to spank them when they do wrong and reward them when they do the right thing. Every child should be spanked if he breaks the rules and do things wrong in contrary to what he was trained to do and agreed upon. The parents should agree with themselves about the rules that the children should follow in the house. Then they will discuss that with the children and explain to them clearly the rules, the reward for the obedience and the consequences of their disobedience. Children will sure test the parents and see if they can disobey and bypass the punishment. Therefore parents should be strict with that particular attitude. Children should not be allowed to control the parents and the atmosphere of the house. God's commands are above everyone and everyone should express his love to God and his love to one another by his obedience to God's Word. **Do not let your children control you. Do not love your children more than your love to God and to His Word; therefore be very careful**

**to discipline your children with a rod when they will disobey and that is how you show your love to God and to your children.** Discipline means rules to follow, limitations and restrictions to observe as well as punishment for disobedience and reward and complement for obedient acts. Discipline is very important for children like the importance of giving them food, accommodation and education. Discipline is the supreme of that all. Discipline will bring life and push death away. If we allow children to do what they like then spiritual death and even real death will come into their lives.

We need to train our children, teach them, discipline them, and raise them in the ways of God, so that when they will obey us and apply what we gave from God's Word the promise of God will come true in their lives that we read in the book of Ephesians, ***“1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.” (Ephesians 6:1-3 KJV)*** We understand here that after we teach our children and will obey us and apply God's Word in their lives, then it will go well with them in their lives and will live long life and that also include eternal life that they will go finally to Heaven after us. But if we will not discipline them and teach them God's Word they will go astray and live in disobedience and end up in hell, and that the very thing that should not happen.

***My Dear and Beloved: “3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. 4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. 5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.” (Psalm 127:3-5 KJV)*** Children God had entrusted them to us, so we need to care for them and love them, train them and raise them up in the way that God wants us to do. **God had blessed you with children and that is your heritage from God and so you need to teach them, train them, and discipline them with rod to correct all their wrong attitudes so they will be blessed and live long and reach with us to Heaven.**

Let us pray . . . .

***My prayer:*** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that teaches me your ways in life of how to teach and discipline my children. Lord thank you for all your goodness to me and for all your good plans for me and my children.

***Repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce your non willingness to discipline your children and your non willingness to use a rod to spank them with. Renounce your own will and your own understanding. Renounce your worldliness and being yoked with many friends and indulge in the news, Media and games, and you are not willing to spend times with your own children and family to read the Word of God and to pray with them. Repent of your lack of stewardship, laziness, setting bad example, and your non willingness to serve God. Repent of your non willingness to commit yourself to do the good works that God had prepared for you to do.***

***Lord I repent and renounce the following sins \_\_\_\_\_ .***

*Lord I commit myself to teach my children your Word and to discipline them using rod, and to raise them in the fear of yours; Lord I commit myself to do the good plan that you have for me and my family.*

*Lord, thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented and had committed their lives to discipline their children and to use the rod to cleanse them from their foolishness and from their bad attitudes. Lord give them wisdom and sustain them to continue to serve you and to do the good works that you had prepared for them to do in raising their children in a Godly way. Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord solve their problems and continue to guide them how to discipline their children so they will continue to serve you.*

*Lord help us as a church and guide us with your Holy Spirit to continue to proclaim your Word and your will to the people, and to teach them your Word. Lord help us to continue to train parents and teach them how to discipline their children and raise them in the fear of God. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the Spiritual gifts that we need in our lives to go on and evangelize, and make disciples and train workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the Whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

Raising Up Godly Children Part 1. Deuteronomy 6:1-9. Proverbs 22:6. Ephesians 6:4. Proverbs 5:23. Proverbs 10:17. Proverbs 12:1. Proverbs 13:18. Proverbs 23:14. Proverbs 29:15. Proverbs 29:17. Proverbs 13:22. Proverbs 22:15. Proverbs 19:29. Proverbs 19:18. Proverbs 23:13. Proverbs 13:24. Ephesians 6:1-3. Psalm 127:3-5.

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