

# Family Relationships: Parenting

Outline:

- I. His Connection
- II. His Chastisement
- III. His Comportment

# Introduction

1. **Good parenting** does not guarantee good children.
  - God the Father:
    - Adam and Eve
    - Israel
    - ... Israel is My son, even My firstborn ... (Ex. 4:22)
    - <sup>2</sup> Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth:  
for the LORD hath spoken,  
I have nourished and brought up children,  
and they have rebelled against me. (Isa. 1:2)

# Introduction

1. Good parenting does not guarantee good children.
  - God the Father:
    - Adam and Eve
    - Israel
    - Church
2. Children are responsible for how they choose to respond to the influence of their parents.
3. It is regrettable when parents experience false guilt .

# Introduction

4. Ezekiel argued against a deterministic relationship between parents and child:
  - A good parent can have a child who turns out bad
  - A bad parent can have a child who turns out fine

# Introduction

5. Some think “Parent-child relationship” is irrelevant:

II Tim.3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

II Tim.3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents**, unthankful, unholy,

a. it presents us with a perspective on the last days

# Introduction

3. The aged women ... teachers of good things;
4. That they may teach the young women ... to love their husbands,  
to love their children,
5. ...that the word of God be not blasphemed. (Tit. 2:3-5)

# Introduction

5. Some think “Parent-child relationship” is irrelevant:
  - a. it presents us with a perspective on the last days
  - b. Women will miss an essential ministry
6. Sign when society reaches its lowest point: break-up of family.

# I. His Connection (Proverbs 17:6)

Children's children are the **crown** of old men;  
and the **glory** of children are their fathers. (Prov. 17:6).

## **Crown** —

- Meaning
  - Literally: crown of a king
  - Figuratively: something that is your honour
- Why crown?
  - Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord:  
and the fruit of the womb is his reward. (Ps. 127:3)
  - OT View: birth of child = reward and blessing from God.



# I. His Connection (Proverbs 17:6)

Children's children are the **crown** of old men;  
and the **glory** of children are their fathers. (Prov. 17:6).

**Glory** —

Something that you love, delight in, boast about;  
something that you revel in.

1. The child revels in his daddy!!
2. Psychological link of child to father.

## II. His Chastisement (Proverbs 13:24)

He that **spareth** (withholds) his **rod** hateth his son:  
but he that loveth him chasteneth (disciplines) him betimes (diligently).  
(Prov. 13:24)

- **spareth** (withholds)
  - i.e. refrain from anything either knowingly or unknowingly.
  - Parents who, as a habit of life, holds back and fails to use his rod
- **rod**
  - Is symbolic for authority
  - Literal stick = a club
  - = concept of corporal punishment

## II. His Chastisement (Proverbs 13:24)

He that spareth (withholds) his rod **hateth** his son:  
but he that **loveth** him chasteneth (disciplines) him betimes (diligently).  
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- **hateth**
  - used of those who oppose divine standards
  - Hate is comparative
- **loveth**
  - i.e. recognition of a person's worth;  
takes action to achieve the loved one's best.

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- **betimes** (diligently)
  - means to be black;
  - the time just before sunrise
- Father who does not exercise corporal punishment and authority is guilty of mental sin = “hateth his son”
- Verse shows the complete contrast between human and divine viewpoints.

## II. His Chastisement (Proverbs 13:24)

He that spareth (withholds) his rod hateth his son:  
but he that loveth him **chasteneth (disciplines)** him betimes (diligently).  
(Prov. 13:24)

- What is **chasteneth** (disciplines)?  
= the total process of training
  1. Constructive discipline = Process whereby children are taught God's Word in the home
  2. Personal discipline = Process of individual Christians disciplining themselves
  3. Corrective discipline = Process of restoring a child who has failed
  4. Punitive discipline = Process of training involving penalty

## II. His Chastisement (Proverbs 13:24)

Why Discipline?

1. Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child;  
but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him. (Prov. 22:15)
2. <sup>13</sup>Withhold not correction from the child:  
for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.  
<sup>14</sup>Thou shalt beat him with the rod,  
and shalt deliver his soul from hell. (Prov. 23:13 –14)
3. The rod and reproof give wisdom:  
but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. (Prov. 29:15)

## II. His Chastisement (Proverbs 13:24)

Why Discipline?

4. Chasten thy son while there is hope,  
and let not thy soul spare for his crying. (Prov. 19:18)
5. Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest;  
yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul. (Prov. 29:17)

# “Secular” Training

Most parents:

- Huge emphasis on children’s education:
- We all want to give our children the best start in life...



# “Spiritual” Training

Higher priority:

- Offer children the knowledge of God
- Parents to make spiritual training a priority in raising children

Some churches refuse to have Bible classes or Sunday School

- Believe it is responsibility of home, not church
- Church should not usurp that responsibility

# “Spiritual” Training

- God placed responsibility of spiritual training on parents
  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.

# “Spiritual” Training

- Two obvious and indisputable truths:
- **First:**  
Importance of parental involvement
  - Children usually excel when..
  - Father can be that critical difference in the lives of children

# “Spiritual” Training

- Two obvious and indisputable truths:
- **Second:**  
No child is prepared for life who hasn't been taught the love of Jesus Christ.
  - Can raise children who have everything that the world uses to measure “success:”
  - Children who live only for themselves and have no concept of relationship to God and others
- To live means to relate
  - Teach our children how to learn to live with others

# “Spiritual” Training

- Mark 12:28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?
- Which one is the most important?

# “Spiritual” Training

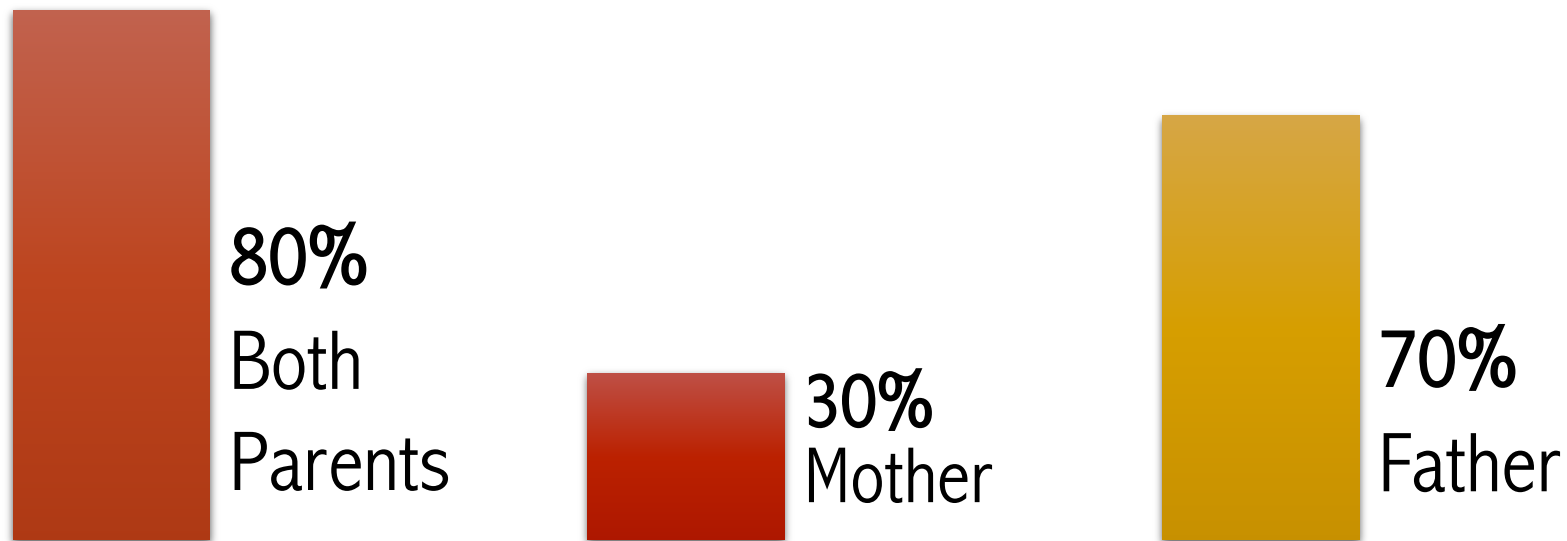
- Mark 12:29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:
  - Jesus replied with the Shema:
  - Recited twice a day by pious Jews
- Mark 12:30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. Mark 12:31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.
  - These two commands summarize all that God is saying to us
  - To live means to relate – first to God, and then to other people

# “Spiritual” Training

- “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself” from Leviticus 19:18
- “as thyself”: not to justify advocating self-love BUT
- Acknowledgement that human beings do love themselves

# “Spiritual” Training

- Regular attendance at church (corporate worship) very important
- Cannot imagine any parent not taking their child’s attendance at worship just as seriously as they take attendance at school
- Father’s attendance at worship important:





# “Spiritual” Training

- Relationship with God – summary:
  - Love Him whole-heartedly
- We need a relationship with Christ.  
We also need relationship with Christians.

# “Spiritual” Training

- How do we relate to the world?
  - Col. 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.
  - Col. 4:6 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.
  - We are to remain humble, loving, caring, kind, and gentle
- **Relationship with non-Christians – summary:**
  - Must be attractive to them, genuinely love them

# Conclusion

There are only three ways to teach a child:

- The first is by example.
- The second is by example.
- The third is by example.

## III. His Comportment (Proverbs 20:7)

The just man walketh in his integrity:

his children are blessed after him. (Prov. 20:7).

Three requirements for a father who wants a happy child:

1. Just man = Justification  
= saved
2. Walketh = continuous behaviour
3. In his integrity = completeness, innocence, fullness  
= What he lives and believes coincides

# III. His Comportment (Proverbs 20:7)

The **just** man **walketh in his integrity**:

his children are **blessed** after him. (Prov. 20:7).

- Results on child:
  - “**blessed**” i.e. happy (emotional and spiritual stability)
  - fortunate, enviable
  - Used for people who have tremendous privilege (<sup>8</sup>**Happy** are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom; I Kings 10:8)
- What a father is spiritually affects what his children are emotionally.

# Challenge

**Will you be the kind of parents  
God expects you to be?**

# Memory Verses

<sup>1</sup>Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

<sup>2</sup>Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

<sup>3</sup>That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

<sup>4</sup>And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.