

Immanuel Institute: Spring 2025
Biblical Anthropology
Week Five: Being a Godly Father

The Faithful Parent, Martha Peace and Stuart Scott

Disciplines of a Godly Man, Kent Hughes

Parenting, Paul Tripp

How Do We Plant Godly Convictions in Our Children, Joel Beeke

Introduction

“In the simplest of times, raising children is an overwhelming task. These are not the simplest of times.” (Peace and Scott, *The Faithful Parent*)

- Does _____ imitate _____, or does _____ imitate _____?
- Everyone thinks about fatherhood through their own family _____.
- Being a father is an overwhelming _____!
- Being a father has a _____ and a _____ window.

“In the middle of all the endless parenting activities, many parents get lost. They are doing lots of things, lots of good things, but they don’t know why. They’ve been swallowed up into the daily grind of parenting, but they’ve lost sight of what it is that they’re working for or building toward. They don’t understand why these ones they love have the power to pull such irritation and frustration out of them. The menial tasks that they have to do day after day get reduced to an endless catalog of unattractive duties that don’t seem to have any overarching vision that holds them all together and sanctifies them with meaning and purpose.” (Paul Trip, *Parenting*)

How to Be a Good, Godly Father

- _____.
 - Pray for _____ as a father (Proverbs 2:1-7, James 1:5-8).
 - Pray for the _____ of your children (John 3:1-8, 1 Peter 1:3).
 - Pray for the spiritual _____ of your children (Genesis 4:7, Ephesians 6:10-20, 1 Peter 5:8)
 - Pray for future _____ of your family (Psalm 78:1-8, 2 Timothy 2:2).

- Pursue _____ with your wife.
 - Marriage is your _____ relationship (Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5, Ephesians 5:31).
 - Your children need to _____ how a husband ought to relate to his wife (Proverbs 23:23-28).
 - Children will _____ the unity of your marriage.

- _____ your children the truth.
 - Teach them the truth about _____ (Deuteronomy 6:1-9).
 - Teach them the truth about _____ (Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:24).
 - Teach them the truth about human _____ (Genesis 3, Romans 5:12-21).
 - Teach them the truth about _____ (Ephesians 6:1-4).

“If rules and regulations had the power to change the heart and life of your child, rescuing your child from himself and giving him a heart of submission and faith, Jesus would have never needed to come!” (Paul Tripp, *Parenting*)

- Teach them the truth about _____ (Proverbs 4:1-27).
- Teach them the truth about _____.

- Set a godly _____ that your kids can follow.
 - Parents are expected to be _____ (Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 5).
 - Children are _____, _____, and _____ (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph).
 - Children need an example of _____.

“A powerful way to teach our children to confess their sins is to confess our sins to them.” (Joel Beeke, *How Do We Plant Godly Convictions in Our Children*)

- Work hard to _____ for your family.
 - Human beings were created to _____ (Genesis 2:15, 2:19-20).
Physical work / Mental work
 - After the fall, our work is marked by _____ and _____ (Genesis 3:17-19).
 - The question of a wife working outside the home is an issue of _____ (Proverbs 31:10-31).
 - There is no _____ about whether or not a man should work to provide for his family (2 Thessalonians 2:6-12).

- _____ your children from danger.
 - Protect your children from _____ (Genesis 3:6, 14:1-16, Genesis 34).
 - Protect your children from _____ (Proverbs 5, 6, 7 ... Proverbs 20:1, 21:17, 23:30-31, 31:4).
 - Protect your children from _____ (Proverbs 22:15, Jeremiah 17:9).
 - Protect your children from a _____ life.

“Your children came into the world with a devastating problem. Your children have the perverse and life-shaping ability to look at the world around them and not see God.” (Paul Tripp, *Parenting*)

- Find a way to be _____ in the things that interest your children (Genesis 25:7).

“The ‘do’s’ of fatherhood cannot be lived out by proxy. You need to participate in putting your little ones to bed and praying for and with them. You need to be at their plays, speeches, recitals, and sporting events. You need to schedule *regular time alone* with each of your children. You need to take the lead in planning terrific family vacations and in celebrating and cementing family solidarity.” (Kent Hughes, *Disciplines of a Godly Man*)

- _____ your children (Proverbs 13:24, 19:18, 22:15, 23:13, 29:17, 29:19).
 - There is a _____ of time in your child’s life where corporal punishment is needed.
 - Fathers must not expect their _____ to handle all the discipline (Genesis 35:22, 1 Samuel 3:11-13).
 - Fathers must not be _____ with their children (Ephesians 6:4, Colossians 3:21).

“The tragedy is that so many men have left this to their children’s mothers. Not only is this unfair to their mother, but it robs the child of the security and self-esteem which come from being disciplined by the father. Men, do you leave the discipline of your sons and daughters to your wives? If so, that is a sad breach of domestic responsibility. You are not living under God’s Word!” (Kent Hughes, *Disciplines of a Godly Man*)

“When our children are little, we may simply tell them what to do. Very early, however, we must also combine enforcement of rules with instruction, and instruction with questions, and questions with conversation. WE must see to it that they know what to do, how to do it, and why it matters.” (Joel Beeke, *How Do We Plant Godly Convictions in Our Children*)

- Take the initiative in involving your family in _____ worship (Exodus 20:8-11, Deuteronomy 5:12-15).
 - Insist that church is a _____, not a last option.
 - Carry a _____. _____ loudly. Take _____.
 - Speak positively about your _____ and the _____ at your church.
 - Lead your family in a Lord's Day _____ of what they learned at church.

- Take the initiative in _____ worship (Deuteronomy 6:1-15, Judges 2:8-10).
 - Family worship requires _____.
 - Family worship involves _____ and _____.
 - Family worship can involve _____ and _____.

“You must model for them a life of deep convictions. If our children see that we take biblical truths lightly, that will influence them to take our teaching lightly. You can't teach your children what you yourself don't value.” (Beeke, *How Do We Plant Godly Convictions in Our Children*)

Application

- “Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, _____, be strong.” (1 Corinthians 16:13)

“Do not overestimate or underestimate your influence. You cannot control your children nor can you save them. You are not responsible for what they choose to do as adults. However, you can sow good seed in their soil of their hearts year after year, and by God's grace that seed will bear much good fruit.” (Joel Beeke, *How Do We Plant Godly Convictions in Our Children*)

“The goal for the Christian parent is to be *faithful to God’s Word by his grace and for his glory.*”
(Martha Peace and Stuart Scott, *The Faithful Parent*)

- Approach parenting as a journey, or a _____, rather than a series of isolated events.

“We want parenting to be a series of events rather than a lifelong process. So in moments of discipline we get loaded for bear; we get cranked up emotionally and think that if we are stern enough and loud enough, and make threats that are big enough, we will sin, and our children will instantly change ... Parenting is not a series of dramatic confrontation-confession events, but rather a life-long process of incremental awareness and progressive change.” (Paul Tripp, *Parenting*)

“Much of our struggle as parents is rooted in the fact that God is still working, with the zeal of transforming grace, to mold new character into our hearts. Without that grace we would be left to the coldness of our hearts and the dysfunction it would create in every dimension of our lives. When you confess that when it comes to character struggles, you are more like your children than unlike them, then you deal with situations when character problems are revealed with patience, kindness, and grace.” (Paul Tripp, *Parenting*)

“Mercy is tenderheartedness and compassion toward someone in need. Our children are just that – needy. They need guidance and protection, they need help and rescue, they need wisdom and instruction, they need confrontation and discipline, they need patience and grace, they need love and compassion, they need support and provision, and they need to see God and themselves with accuracy. There is not a day when your children do not need your mercy. Because of this, your primary calling as a parent is not first to represent God’s judgment, but rather to constantly deliver his mercy.” (Paul Tripp, *Parenting*)