

Two Basic Tasks of Parenting

Eph. 6:4 “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

...in the discipline...

Prov. 19:18

Discipline your children while there is hope. Otherwise you will ruin their lives. (NLT)

Discipline your son, for there is hope; do not set your heart on putting him to death. (ESV)

Heb. 12: 6-7

The Lord disciplines everyone he loves; he punishes everyone he accepts as a child. So accept sufferings like a father’s discipline. God does these things to you like a father correcting his children. You know that all children are disciplined by their fathers. So, if you never receive the discipline that every child must have, you are not true children and don’t really belong to God.

...and instruction...

Instruction is a blessing

Prov. 1:8-9. My son, listen to your father when he corrects you, and don’t ignore what your mother teaches you. What you learn from your parents will bring you honor and respect, like a crown or a gold medal.

Instruction warns about consequences

Prov. 5:1-4. Son, listen to this piece of wisdom from me. Pay attention to what I know to be true...Now, another man’s wife might be very charming...But in the end, she will bring only bitterness and pain.

Listening to instruction brings peace

Prov. 3:1-2. My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

...of the Lord...

Godly parenting has good fruit

Heb. 12:10-11. Our fathers on earth disciplined us for a short time in the way they thought was best. But God disciplines us to help us so that we can be holy like him. We don’t enjoy discipline when we get it. It is painful. But later, after we have learned our lesson from it, we will enjoy the peace that comes from doing what is right.

Parenting is discipleship

Luke 1:17. He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly.