



Raising Godly Children in a Secular World



PROPER DISCIPLINE

We Reap What We Sow

Galatians 6:7-8 – “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

We Must Discipline our Children

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



We Must Discipline our Children

- Defined: “the *whole training and education* of children (which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals, and employs for this purpose now commands and admonitions, now reproof and punishment)” (Thayer’s)



Positive Discipline:

GODLY INSTRUCTION

Parents Must Teach God's Ways

- This was the foundation of Jewish society – Deut. 6:6-7, 20-25
- Cornerstone of Christian parenting – Eph. 6:4; 1 Tim. 1:5

What does this instruction include?

Train your children...

- That life is truly enjoyed in the realm of righteousness and responsibility – Eccl. 3:12-13; 11:9-12:1
- To obey and honor you...for their good – Eph. 6:1-3
- To respect and obey authority – Rom. 13:1-7; Acts 5:29
- To know the keys of a happy marriage – Mt. 19:4-6, 9; Eph. 5:22-25, 28
- By giving them the proper example to follow!

Negative Discipline:

CORRECTION AND PUNISHMENT

Correction

- Needed because kids will not be perfect – Prov. 29:17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17
- Must be coupled with warnings of the consequences of their actions.
 - God uses positive and negative reinforcement to show that actions have consequences – Deut. 4:1, 6; 4:25-26
 - Warnings must not be empty threats!

Punishment

- A child left to him/herself will bring shame upon the parents – Prov. 29:15
- Punishment comes in various forms:
 - Time out
 - Long time outs—grounding
 - Withholding blessings – Amos 4



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- Don't believe the psychological babbling.
- If you love your children, you will spank them – Prov. 13:24; Heb. 12:5-6, 9-11
- If you want your children to be wise, you will spank them – Prov. 22:15
- If you have high hopes for your children's future, you will spank them – Prov. 19:18; 23:13
- So, spank them and mean it.