

# What Parents Owe Their Children

## PSALMS 128: 1-6

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways

When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be happy and it shall be well with you

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house,

Your children like olive plants All around your table.

Behold, thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the LORD.

The Lord bless you out of ZION,

And may you see the good of Jerusalem All the days of your life. Yes, may you see your children's children

Peace be upon Israel!

## PSALMS 127:3

Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

## INTRODUCTION:

Time passes so fast that even though we live in the present many times we find ourselves still making adjustments for the things in the past.

About the time we get everything figured out on how to raise our children they are grown and gone. So, the only thing left is to tell other people how to raise their children. Ha!

When parents were asked would it be better to raise their children in the future or the past 92% said the past.

It is not only more difficult to be a parent today it is also more difficult to be a child.

85% of parents feel uncertain about how to raise their children.

## 5 Traits That Parents Want Their Children To Posses

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. 63% of parents want their children to<br>Have a sense of responsibility and... | 1. Love and obey God                         |
| 2. 49% good manners and...  | 2. Good self image                           |
| 3. 45% be to leanant and...   | 3. Take responsibility for their<br>choices. |
| 4. 36% a meaningful faith and...  | 4. A positive mental attitude                |
| 5. 89% to be independent and.....   | 5.A thankful spirit.                         |

## WE OWE OUR CHILDREN

### 1. Unconditional love: Prodigal son (Luke 15)

No condemnation

(As a teenager- can get stuck-called home-why?)

- a. Provides security
- b. Intimacy-freedom to try and fail
- c. Nurturing environment-rock solid

Why do we love that child?

(The number one reason to love your children is because they are your children.)

- a. On the basis of performance
- b. Behavior
- c. C choice
- d. Potential
- e. Compliance
- f. Need

Why do we love them, just because they belong to us.

### 2. Constructive Discipline:

EPHESIANS 6:4

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the lord.

A survey said 69% of parents believe they discipline their child correctly, but 81% disapprove of the way other parents discipline their children.

The average complaint from a teenager is, “You don’t trust me!”

The issue is not that parents don’t trust teenagers. It is that parents cannot trust their inexperience!

## RULES FOR RAISING DELINQUET CHILDREN

1. Give your child everything he/she wants and they will grow up to believe that the world owes them something.
2. When they pick up bad words laugh at them. They will think it is cute and they will pick up cuter phrases that will blow your mind.
3. Never give them any spiritual training. Depend solely on the church to do it for you. Or wait until they are 21 to decide for themselves.
4. Avoid using the word WRONG. They may develop a guilt complex. Later when he breaks the law and is punished he will believe that society is against him and he is being persecuted.
5. Pick up everything they leave laying around. Do everything for them, so they can be experienced at throwing all responsibility on someone else.
6. Let them read any printed matter they can get their hands on. Be sure to sterilize the silverware and drinking glasses, but let their minds feast on garbage.
7. Quarrel frequently in the presence of your children and they will not be shocked when the home is broken up later.
8. Always give the child plenty of spending money. Never require that they earn things on their own. Why should they have it as difficult as you did?
9. Satisfy every craving for food, drink and comfort. See that every sensual desire is gratified; denial may lead to harmful frustrations.

10. Always take your child's part against neighbors, teachers and policemen (all authority). They are all prejudiced against your children.
11. When they get into real trouble apologize for yourself by saying "I never could do anything with that child."
12. Prepare yourself for a life of grief, for you probably will have it.

## HEBREWS 12:5-11

<sup>5</sup> And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:

*" My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD,  
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;  
<sup>6</sup> For whom the LORD loves He chastens,  
And scourges every son whom He receives. "*<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>7</sup> If <sup>[b]</sup> you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? <sup>8</sup> But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. <sup>9</sup> Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected *us*, and we paid *them* respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> For they indeed for a few days chastened *us* as seemed *best* to them, but He for *our* profit, that *we* may be partakers of His holiness. <sup>11</sup> Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

## CORRECT DISCIPLINE WILL DO 3 THINGS

- a. It will cause children to respect their parents. V.9  
It shows children that parents care.
- b. It will cause children to do right. V.11
- c. It will cause children to live at peace. V.11

### 3. WE OWE OUR CHILDREN, TIME WITH THEM:

Listening, understanding, helping and guiding.

A sacrificial task.

How parents spend time with their children:

86% watch TV together

80% spend 30 minutes talking to their child

73% do homework together

69% go to a restaurant together

59% take a trip where the child will enjoy it

49% play a game together

23% cultural experience

13% movie or theater

100 years ago parents spent 54% of their awake hours together, today it is 18%.

### Erma Bombeck- WHEN THE CHILDREN HAVE GROWN UP.

One of these days you'll shout "Why don't you kids grow up and act your age." And they will. Or "you guys get outside and find yourselves something to do and don't slam the door!" And they will. You'll straighten up the boys bedroom, neat and tidy, bumper stickers discarded, spread tucked and smooth, toys displaced on shelves, hangers hung in the closet, animals caged, and you'll say aloud, "Now I want it to stay this way." And it will. You'll prepare a perfect dinner with a salad that hasn't been picked to death, cake with no finger traces in the icing. You'll say "Now there is a meal for company," but you'll eat it all alone. There'll be no more plastic tablecloth stained with spaghetti and no more bed spreads to protect the sofa from damp bottoms. No more gates to stumble over at the top of the stairs. You'll have no more anxious nights under a vapor tent. No more sand in the sheets. Or Popeye movies in the bathroom. No more iron on patches, wet knotted shoe strings, tight boots or rubber bands for ponytails. Imagine a lipstick with a point on it. No babysitter

for New Years Eve. Washing only once a week. Having your teeth cleaned without a baby on your lap. No P.T.A meetings. No carpools. No blaring radios. No one washing their hair at 11 o'clock at night. Having your own roll of scotch tape. Think about it! No more Christmas presents out of toothpicks and library paste. No more sloppy oatmeal kisses. No tooth fairy. No giggles in the dark. No knees to heal, no responsibility. Only a voice crying, "Why don't you grow up?" And an echo of silence saying "I did."

4. WE OWE OUR CHILDREN A CHRISTIAN MODEL:

Children do what children see. The apple does not fall far from the tree.