

Training our children: Chastisement (-)

INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

1. 327_Introduction to the series about the family
2. 591_Marriage: Its purpose
3. 592_Marriage: Its permanency
4. 015_The man's role in marriage
5. 017_The woman's role in marriage
6. 498_A wife worth more than jewels
7. 244_When mommy is not home
8. 597_Loving intellectually
9. 598_The affectionate love
10. 599_Intimate love
11. 602_Communication
12. 604_Problems between husband and wife
13. 606_The responsibilities of parents and children
14. 608_Training our children: Instruction
15. 609_Training our children: Chastisement
16. 610_Training our children: Direction
17. 612_Biblical cases of fathers and sons
18. 611_The relationship between siblings
19. 440_What every youth wants in reality
20. 618_Courtship: Preparation for marriage
21. 021_The family who is centered in Christ

B. The training of a child or children is a long process

1. Instruction and teaching (previous lesson #608)
2. Chastisement this lesson #609
3. Also as part of their training direction is needed (next lesson #610)

C. The importance of bringing them up correctly

1. Your son or daughter did NOT ask you to bring him/her to this world
2. For those who have a family, it was our choice to bring them to this world, and then it is up to me and you to bring them up, to raise them. It is a great responsibility on which the Lord has entrusted us with!
3. Please notice, of all of the influences the child may have in this world, our influence is going to be the strongest (for good and or for bad).

D. We want to consider the following points in this lesson:

1. To come to an agreement as parents as how to raise our child, or children
2. It begins from an early age
3. Establishing limits (boundaries)
4. Using the "rod"
5. Do not get frustrated rather being firm

6. Do not lie, rather be firm
7. Do not exasperate (provoke to anger)

[Let us begin with the first major point in this lesson...]

I. COMING TO AN AGREEMENT AS PARENTS

A. To be on agreement is a Biblical principal

1. Consider (**Amos 3:3**) NAS77 – “Do two men walk together unless they have made an appointment?”
2. (**Mark 3:25**) NAS77 – “And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand”
3. The chastisement of a child is the solely responsibility of the parents notice (**Proverbs 1:8**) NAS77 – “Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and do not forsake your mother's teaching”
4. Yes the father needs to take the lead but both participate in this training

B. If not the discipline of the child will be counterproductive

1. Why? Because there will be two different ideas on how to raise the child or children
2. When different ideas on how to raise our children are practice on a child one can the “injustice” and tries to interfere the other parent, the other parent wants to follow his/her training but feels frustrated.
3. The son or daughter of course sees all of this and it gives the child an opportunity to play the parents on their divided procedure on how to raise their child. The child puts the dad against the mom (one may say one thing and so the child goes and asks the mom knowing that she will say something different)

C. Both parents need to sit down and come to an agreement on the details on how the children will be raise, chastisement, discipline, instruction, etc.

II. IT BEGINS FROM AN EARLY AGE

A. The proverbs

1. **Proverbs 19:18** NAS77 – “Discipline your son while there is hope, and do not desire his death”
2. **Proverbs 13:24** NAS77 – “He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently”
3. **Proverbs 22:6** NAS77 – “Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it”

B. Never is too early to discipline the child (using the word “discipline” in its fullest meaning, instruction, chastisement, direction, etc.)

C. Many parents will delay this

1. It is true, there are less consequences when a child is young
2. The parents chose the easy way at that moment.
3. What they ignore is that they are storing treasures of worries, heart affliction.

D. “Brother, but it is too late” Today the son is younger than tomorrow

III. ESTABLISHING LIMITS (BOUNDARIES)

A. True liberty is base on restrictions

1. The illustration: a person has the liberty to walk on many places (rocks, hot asphalt, broken glass, etc.) it is only possible with shoes (the restriction is therefore the shoes for the feet) that without any shoes.
2. Consider a nation, an army, a baseball game without any rules or regulations.

B. Our sons and daughters need to know which are the rules of the house

1. The schedule for:

- a. Getting up and going to bed
 - b. Time to eat
 - c. Time to play and work
 - d. Schedule for knowing the time to go to school, Bible study at home and at church
 - e. For children who are older, the time they can play outside and come home.
2. A limited time for:
 - a. Watching television
 - b. Games and video games
 - c. Playing with the computer or using the internet
 3. The persons they can have as friends
 4. Limits on modest clothing
 5. Etc.
- C. Our sons and daughters need to know what are the consequences when the rules are broken**
1. "If you do this, this is what is going to happen..."
 2. Then, we must fulfill our word, chastisement should be done!

IV. USING THE "ROD" FOR CHASTISEMENT

A. The proverbs:

1. **Proverbs 23:13-14** (READ)
 - a. The commandment, who are we going to listen man or our creator?
 - b. "He will not die"
 - 1) Let us not be afraid as parents to use the "rod" because our son or daughter will NOT die! (physically). Corporal punishment will not kill when used according to the guide lines in the book of God. Let us not be afraid of those who try to misguide us in disciplining our children that is a lie!
 - 2) When using the rod correctly the son will not die spiritually we will deliver him from Sheol
 - c. It is better for our children to suffer a little here while on earth than eternally
2. "But I love my child too much" Do you love or hate your child? (**Proverbs 13:24**). Withholding discipline does not love the child rather we are choosing the easy way. Many do not believe in God but rather they believe in man and his lies.
3. **Proverbs 22:15**
 - a. The benefit: "the rod of discipline will remove it far from him"
 - 1) "Foolishness" = action without any purpose or direction.
 - 2) God has created children with energy without any purpose wrapped up in his heart it is part of his nature. Our children were created with the necessity of someone and that someone is usually the parent to guide them, instruct them, to discipline them when necessary in order to re-direct his/her energy into the right channel!
 - b. That is the reason why God has given the child to them. God has indicated to us parents for this important work and He says that the "rod" serves to deliver him away from Sheol.
4. Wisdom or shame? (**Proverbs 29:15**).
 - a. Just as what we say ("reproof", reprehension) and action ("the rod", corporal punishment) are necessary.
 - b. "But a child who gets his own way..." In other words for the child to do whatever he/she wants
 - c. Consequences: "brings shame to his mother"

B. This corporal punishment needs to hurt

1. Consider **Hebrews 12:5-11** (READ)
 - a. The example of God!
 - b. Motivated by love (**Heb. 12:6**)
 - c. It hurts! (**Heb. 12:11**)

2. Some parents will only give a soft spanking to the child whether he/she is wearing diapers or over the clothing, doing this does not necessary accomplish the purpose of a disciplinary action.
 - a. How do we know it did not do the purpose?
 - 1) The child screams instead of crying, the child is trying to deceive the parents thinking that the child is in pain.
 - 2) After the child was punished, chastised the child immediately goes to play as if nothing had happen. If the punishment is applied to the child correctly believe me, moving and playing will not be in the child's mind at that time.
 - 3) The child does the same thing immediately after the reproof.
 - b. It has been said that God has designed the body with a specific place for corporal punishment, because it is naturally cushioned, but when this part of the body is cover with a diaper and or clothing it lessens the purpose of using the "rod"
 - c. I remember my mother using the "belt" with no pants to that I can feel the consequences of my mischief's

C. Please listen, the Bible nor we do not promote abuse or mistreat a child.

1. Remembering when I needed to be disciplined a belt was used. Today we use the belt when administrating discipline to my children and it even has a name, Mr. Belt. Mr. Belt is in closet and when it is necessary to use him usually I need to walk to the other room that way when I pick up Mr. Belt I am calmed, cool headed and so the discipline can be administer correctly.
2. A "rod" from a tree is convenient as well, it is flexible and often enough will reach its purpose. Given enough time to look for one and cut it or even have the child do it achieves its purpose as well, to meditate and to calm down before it is applied to the child.

D. The rod, belt, corporal punishment also is a preventive method

1. In the very child
2. The older children will warn and even tell the young ones no to do certain things.
3. The child needs this in order to know for certainty what is wrong, boundaries, limits what she/he ought to behave with this there is no confusion.

V. DO NOT GET FRUSTRATED BUT BE FIRM

A. A typical problem we often see: The child complains, whining about something, either something the child does not want to do or about a thing a child wants to do.

1. Many parents are overwhelmed and get frustrated
 - a. The parent often enough will get into a verbal confrontation with the child and begin to discuss with the child as if the child was an adult. The battle begins and words are flying right and left and not only that but sarcasm is even use as a tactic, nobody wins the argument but the tone of the voices are on a higher decibel and finally the father last resource is screaming to child to place is authority as a parent.
 - b. Latter, the parent explodes and scream at the child saying, "here...I am up to here with your whining, here get what you want...go leave me alone"
 - c. Or the parent grabs the kid gets him out of what the child is doing and the parent puts him in another place...doing the same thing over and over all day.
 - d. Or grabs the child forcefully by throwing the child on the sofa or bed or send him to his room.
 - e. The only thing the child is trying to get the parents attention.
2. This is not discipline
 - a. Notice, if we as parents use this method we are NOT disciplining our children correctly rather we are exasperating them; the child knows that the parents are only getting their frustrations out on the child. This is not discipline for the child, because it will not raise him/her up, does not teach the child and definitely will not instruct on the way the child should go.

- b. The only thing that this will teach the child is that he does not have to obey at all, and will be a shock once he/she is out in the world.
3. Not disciplining our children will bring other problems, the child who is not discipline will frustrate the parents (mom or dad)
4. Basically in this situation the child does not see a parent with authority he sees another child only that is taller and heavier that is all, what happen when the child grows in stature, then what?

B. Firmness

1. Parents let us control the situation by not letting it get out of hand, nip it right away.
2. We must take a prompt decision with regards the situation at hand using our best judgment and wisdom God has granted us (as we pray about it as well)
3. Then give a firm “yes” or “no” demonstrated with the tone of voice (not yelling (Ephesians 4:31) – children yell those with authority need not to yell)
4. This should be the end of the matter and therefore the son or daughter should not go back at it again, if the child tries or goes back to the resolved issue then punishment will be necessary.
5. Usually, when the father speaks twice about the same matter it will be to tell the child to pull down their pants and for the child to receive his punishment with no discussion or fights.
6. The chastisement must be immediately as possible

C. How can the parent have a commanding word, impotent and effective? [That is our next point...]

VI. DO NOT LIE BUT BE FIRM

A. Lying

1. A typical problem with the child, “I’m going to count to three, one...two...”
 - a. The child knows that mom and dad will never get to three and so the child participates on the game, every time stretching the boundary and or limits set by the parents.
 - b. The child is not seeing in their parents those with authority rather they see another child just like them.
2. Problem, “If you do this, I am going to...”
 - a. The child does it again and the parents once again will warn the child.
 - b. Let us call this what it is. If we say to the child “If you do this I will...” but if we do not carry out what we say then it is a lie.
 - c. It is not fair to the child for he/she does not know where you stand with regards to the matter at hand.
3. The children then since early age learn about their parents lying because they do not carry out what they say. The child learns that dad’s word does not have any authority and therefore does not mean anything to them. The children do not respect the parent’s authority because their words do not have any weight, why should their children respect their parent’s words and or authority if they themselves do not respect their own words?

B. Being firm

1. Consider **James 5:12** NAS77 – “But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; **but let your yes be yes, and your no, no**; so that you may not fall under judgment”
2. As parents and Christians we need to fulfill our words by respecting ourselves and our word.
3. We need to say things only once to our children and if he does not obey well punishment is due. Then explain the reason of why he was punished
 - a. “Son, you know you are not supposed to do that” If our son knows that he is not supposed to do that then he needs to be chastised.
4. Saying it once and then chastise the child demonstrates authority.
 - a. This is the goal of the father’s instruction and teaching

- b. When the child becomes an adult it will not be hard for him/her to submit themselves to the authority of school, boss, government, and of God he/she will be trained to respect authority.

VII. DO NOT EXASPERATE

A. The passages

1. **Ephesians 6:4** NAS77 – “And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord”
2. **Colossians 3:21** NAS77 – “Fathers, do not exasperate your children, that they may not lose heart”

B. The discipline (punishment) of the son does need to take place when the father is frustrated.

This is not the discipline which the Bible speaks

1. The discipline which the Bible speaks is a constructive discipline, a constant discipline and consequent for the benefit of the child.

C. Things that can break the spirit and discourage the child

1. Excessive demands, not taking into account the child's age and or capacity
2. Severity, cruelty and physical abuse
 - a. About insignificant issues
 - b. The child spills the milk by an accident then the father beats the child
3. Always saying to the child “NO” just by habit of the parent in order to protect him
4. Non-constructive criticism
5. Being indifferent to their personal problems (to them are very real)
6. Disciplining according feeling of the parent, if the father is in a good mood he may be too lenient towards the child but if the parent is in a bad mood or even tire, be careful!
7. Practicing partiality between the children (**Genesis 25:28**)
8. Making comparisons between children, “I wish you can be more like...”
9. Also when we do not motivate them, give them a “good job” for trying, doing something good like picking up their toys, good intentions, successes and their abilities.
10. When we do not confess our errors
 - a. At times we may discipline them unjustly or the mode in which we do it, we need to say “please forgive me, I am sorry”
 - b. That is what real love is all about (**1 Cor. 13:4**)
11. Stop the hypocrisy, at time we want to obligate the child to do something we ourselves are not willing to do.
 - a. “Turn off the television and do your homework”, the parents then sit down and watch television all night.
 - b. “Help your mother”, but the husband will not lift a finger trying to help
12. Not fulfilling your word, see previous section

D. It requires more effort to motivate the child (1 Thess. 2:11 NAS77) – “just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children”

CONCLUSION:

A. The sons are an inheritance from God (Psalm 127:3-5)

1. Therefore we have a great responsibility as parents!
2. We will have to give an answer to God how we have raised them!

B. How are you going to respond to this responsibility?

1. Am I going to leave my son do whatever he wants?
 - a. This will bring shame to the parents (**Proverbs 29:15**)
 - b. Maybe it would have been better for him not be born

2. Will I bring him up in discipline and instruction of the Lord? (**Ephesians 6:4**)
 - a. This will bring honor to the parents
 - b. This will help the child to reach his/her eternal happiness

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