

parent's instruction

The parent as a _____

1. Prerequisites for teaching in the home

- Recognize that a child lacks understanding and needs to be taught (Prov 1:2-4)
- Realize that children learn incrementally (Is 28:10)

This kind of teaching is progressive and cumulative. The wise parent learns how to look at all of God's standards and break it down into lessons which can be absorbed bit by bit, day by day, year by year.

- Require that children exercise self-control when you are teaching

2. How do parents teach?

- Through example – the testimony of your life (Col 3:3; Phil 1:21; 4:9)
- In life situations (Deut 6:6-7; Prov 20:5)
- By questions and answers (Josh 4:6-7; Ex 12:26)
- Formal teaching times
- As an encourager and an evangelist (Eph 6:4)

3. What do parents teach? (Deut 6:1-2; 2 Tim 2:15)

- Fear of God (Prov 9:10)
 - Knowing God (Jer 9:23-24; John 17:3; Phil 3:10)
 - Worshipping God (Ex 34:14; Ps 29:2; 150; John 4:23-24; Matt 6:1-18; Heb 10:24-25)
 - Pleasing God (1 Cor 10:31; 2 Cor 5:9, 15; Gal 1:10; Col 3:22-23; John 4:34; 5:30)
- Submission and obedience to authority (Eph 6:1-2; Rom 13:1-7)
 - Parents (Eph 6:1-3)
 - Teachers (Heb 13:17)
 - Government (1 Pet 2:13-15)
 - Church (Heb 13:17)
 - Employers (1 Pet 2:13-14)
 - Submission and obedience is ultimately a matter of the heart (Prov 2:1-7)

- How to deal with sin (Prov 8:13a)
 - Dealing with personal sin (Prov 3:7; Matt 7:3; 1 John 8-10; Matt 5:23-24; Luke 19:8)
 - Help them deal with their own sin (Prov 3:7; Matt 7:3)
 - Help them receive forgiveness (1 John 8-10)
 - Help them seek reconciliation (Matt 5:23-24)
 - Help them see the need for restitution (Luke 19:8)
 - Help them learn from failure and encourage them to be ready for the next time
 - Help them see the proper “put ons”
 - Dealing with others’ sin
 - Explain times to flee so they don’t get caught up in the sin of others (Prov 4:14-15; Gen 39:12; 1 Cor 15:33)
 - Teach the importance of returning good for evil (Rom 12:17-21)
 - Stress the importance of being a peacemaker (Rom 12:18)
 - Teach them how confront sin in a loving manner (Matt 18:15ff; 5:23ff; Gal 6:1; 1 Pet 3:8-9)
 - Teach the importance of forgiving others (Eph 4:32)
- Biblical communication (Eph 4:29; Prov 15:2)
 - Listening (Prov 18:13, 15, 17; James 1:19)
 - Speaking

Scripture clearly addresses foolish speech tendencies such as:

 - Lying (Ex 20:16; Prov 12:22; Col 3:9). Deal strongly with all dishonesty.
 - Rash, sharp words (Prov 12:18; 29:20)
 - Boasting (Prov 25:14; 27:1)
 - Tattling (Ps 15:3; Prov 11:13; 16:28; 17:9)
 - Meddling (Prov 26:17; 1 Thess 3:11)
 - Gossip (Rom 1:29; 1 Cor 12:20; 1 Tim 5:13)

- Grumbling and whining (Phil 2:14)
- Arguing (Prov 20:3; Phil 2:14)
- To love and serve others (Phil 2:3; 1 Cor 13:4-7; John 3:16; Phil 2:3-9; John 10:11; Mark 10:42-45; Eph 4:1-2)
- How to deal with desires, expectations and disappointments (Prov 15:16)
- How to handle trials biblically (Rom 8:28-29; James 1; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Prov 3:3-5)
- Stewardship (Prov 21:20; 1 Cor 4:2)
 - Good stewards of time (Ps 90:12; Eph 5:16)
 - Good stewards of their abilities, and bodies (1 Thess 4:3-4; 1 Cor 9:26-27)
 - Good stewards of material blessings
- A biblical work ethic (Col 3:23; Ecc 9:10)
 - When do we work? – most of the time
 - How do we work? – heartily with excellence (Col 3:23; Ecc 9:10)
 - Why do we work? – to please God (Col 3:23); meet our needs (2 Thess 3:10); meet the needs of others (Eph 4:28)
- Biblical principles concerning marriage (Eph 5; 1 Pet 3:1-7; Prov 31:10-31)

Recommended Resources

1. *The Faithful Parent*, Martha Peace & Stuart Scott
2. *Instructing a Child's Heart*, Tedd Tripp
3. *Family Worship* by Donald Whitney
4. *Big Truths for Young Hearts: Teaching and Learning the Greatness of God* by Bruce Ware