

Women Counseling Women: Biblical Answers to  
Life's Difficult Problems

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"Faithful Parenting: Reaching Your Child's Heart"

***A Different Type of Parenting***

God has called us to a different kind of parenting. He wants us to proactively consider our children's hearts and train them in a way that honors Him.

***The Bible and Parenting***

God wants parents to communicate to their children the truth about our sinful condition and His way of salvation. Our goal as parents is to teach our children to know God and love to Him. "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children." (Deut 6:5-7)

***A Mother's Example***

Our children learn how to live life by watching us and imitating the things we do. In the same way, they learn how to love God by observing our love for God. *Loving God is a prerequisite for teaching others to love God.*

Our love for God is a commitment to obedience to Him, not a feeling of love.

Just an encouragement: there will be times that we fail. Our obedience doesn't gain our salvation nor does it secure it. We are dependent upon God's grace and mercy for everything. It's important to show our children that as well. Don't be afraid to show them your need for forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration as well as theirs.

***A Mother's Mandate***

God has commanded us not to provoke our children to anger and to bring them up in the instruction and discipline of the Lord.

***Act As An Agent of God's Authority***

God has given us stewardship of our children. We were given the position of authority over our children by God. It is our job to teach our children to obey. **Obedience is: "the willing submission of one person to the authority of another...It means doing what [one] is told-without challenge, without excuse, and without delay."**

***Do Not Provoke Your Children to Anger***

Be careful not to abuse the authority God has given you over your child by provoking them to anger.

Ways children are provoked to anger:

\*when a command is unreasonable or unclear

\*when they perceive hypocrisy in an authority figure

\*when they are disciplined outside of a loving relationship

## ***Bring Them Up***

### ***Bring Them Up in the Discipline of the Lord***

\*Providing them with training and correction that will lead them to maturity.

\*The goal of biblical discipline is to change the heart, not just the behavior, through the use of verbal correction and physical discipline.

#### **Verbal Correction**

\*calmly and gently communicate how our children have sinned.

\*explain God's standard and how not meeting that standard is sin.

\* help them understand how they disobeyed God

\*use their sin to help communicate God's grace to them

\*give them hope in the Scriptures-have gospel conversations

#### **Discipline**

"Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him." Proverbs 22:15

\*Your child's heart is filled with foolishness.

\*He does not want to obey you because He would rather foolishly follow his own desires.

### ***Bring Them Up in the Instruction of the Lord***

This is the act of building up our children through wise communication.

It is with discipline that we remove their foolishness, and as it is removed, we need to build wisdom in it's place.

Train them to obey:

\*immediately

\*with a joyful heart

\*without being told why

### ***A Mother's Love***

Children are a gift and a blessing from the Lord. Create a relationship where you show your children you delight in them. They should see that they bring you joy simply by being with them.

Some ideas for how to develop such a relationship are:

\*spend time with your children

\*listen to your children

\*praise your children

### ***Our Faithful Heavenly Father***

God loves you....even when you fail in parenting. Ask His forgiveness and seek His grace and wisdom. You can persevere because He who called you is faithful.

## Resources

“Treeology Theology” (Catechisms)

[mountcalvarybaptist.org](http://mountcalvarybaptist.org)

Click on the “Resources” tap and scroll down to “Treeology Theology”

The Ology: Ancient Truths Ever New

Author, Marty Machowski

This is a book of systematic theology on a child’s level.

Big Truths for Young Hearts

Author, Bruce A. Ware

Another systematic theology book for children age 6-14.

Christian Heroes: Then and Now

Authors, Janet and Geoff Benge

These are missionary biographies.

The Poison Cup

Author, R.C. Sproul

This is a children’s book for young ages. It tells the story of redemption. He also has written many other children’s books.

Devoted: Great Men and Their Godly Moms

Author, Tim Challies

He tells of the devoted godly mothers of John Newton, Hudson Taylor, Charles Spurgeon, Augustine, John Piper and more.