

12. God will humble every person when Christ returns to earth. (Isaiah 2:11)
13. Humility is not a negative such as down grading yourself, thinking you cannot do anything, or a lack of confidence.
14. Humility is not by any means humiliation. Humility is the virtue of being free from arrogance while humiliation is to reduce your view of self to a lower status in your eyes or the eyes of others.
15. Having humility doesn't mean you are weak. Humility means you orient to authority, and you are able to handle authority even if it's unfair.
16. God exalts or promotes the humble. (Matthew 23:12; Luke 1:48-52; 14:11; 18:14; James 4:10)
17. The dependence on human power and ability is reduced to zero in biblical humility and the dependence on God's power and ability is increased to the max.
18. Humility is the root of all other virtues. Arrogance spoils everything. There can be no real love without humility.

1 Corinthians 13:4: "Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant."

NOTE: Augustine said, humility is first, second and third in Christianity!

Because boys will grow to men and hopefully lead families it's very important that they learn wisdom and especially learn Godly wisdom. So let's get a couple of points on wisdom.

1. Teach boys to fear the Lord. Proverbs 9:10 says that the **"fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom."** Teaching boys God's amazing grace is an essential piece of establishing wisdom in their hearts.
2. Encourage daily Bible study. Going to church as a family is important but encouraging boys to have a daily Bible study is important in gaining wisdom.
3. **PROVERBS 9:11-12** - Says that wisdom will **"multiply your days and add years to your life."**
4. Doesn't it make sense that we should encourage our kids toward wisdom as one of the most important character traits as the steppingstone to all other character traits.

5. God also promises several times in Proverbs that **“wisdom will protect and guard us”**.

Proverbs 2:11: **“Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.”** And later, in

Proverbs 4:6: God’s word says, **“Don’t turn your back on wisdom, for she will protect you.”**

6. Discuss wise and foolish decisions made by those in the news or history. You can also discuss the consequences of their wise or unwise choices.
7. As a parent exemplify wisdom in your everyday actions.

PRINCIPLE: God promises that those who search for wisdom will find it.

Proverbs 8:17: **“I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me.”**

Proverbs 4:1: **“Hear, O sons, the instruction of a father, And give attention that you may gain understanding,”**

Vs. 2: **“For I give you sound teaching; Do not abandon my instruction.”**

Vs. 4: **“Then he taught me and said to me, “Let your heart hold fast my words;”**

Vs. 5: **“Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.”**

Vs. 6: **“Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you.”**

Vs. 8: **“Prize her, and she will exalt you;”**

Warning: Parents we can never lose sight that our children have “volition”. Everyone always quotes Proverbs 22:6. I hear it from inmates all the time and from Correctional Officers, Chaplains, etc. Let’s get a couple of points on this verse as well.

Proverbs 22:6 – **“Train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old, he will not depart from it.”**

1. This verse is not a divine guarantee or an iron clad promise that young or old, he or she will return to Bible Doctrine.

2. Even though they are well trained in Bible Doctrine early in life it is not a done deal. It does not excuse you from training them nor does it excuse you from learning Bible Doctrine.
3. Volition positive or negative is always involved in any person's choices. You can never discount volition. God doesn't. He understands people even believers make bad decisions.
4. Volition is always a part of the equation of returning to Bible Doctrine after departing.
5. What Proverbs 22:6 assures to parents is this; those lessons learned in childhood will last for a lifetime. What you teach your children they will learn it and it will last a lifetime in their souls.
6. Lessons driven home by parents at that crucial stage of their lives will not go away. Doctrine has been implanted and will remain in their consciousness. They will understand the concepts even if they fail to use them.
7. With your children you must define Divine Viewpoint in contrast to human viewpoint and you must use Divine Viewpoint yourself.
8. Through your words of guidance, discipline, and encouragement you train or teach your children.
9. Also, show your dedication to Bible Doctrine in your own life. If you're not interested, they won't be!!

Here's a word of CAUTION: Teach it, live it, but don't ram it down their little throats. Don't be a doctrinal tyrant in how you teach doctrine, how you train your children, how you introduce them to Bible Doctrine. That teaching is more likely to exacerbate reaction and rebellion. Studying doctrine should never be a chore or a prison for a child.

10. If as a parent you accomplish the points above regardless if a child exhibits negative volition now or later, you have nothing ever to be ashamed of in the rearing of your children. You've done your job as unto the Lord and it is up to them.
11. Parental dedication to teaching is the best chance a child has for living a spiritual life of Bible Doctrine. This is the best chance, but they will still choose in the way they will go.

Remember **Psalm 119:11: "Your word have I treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You."**

1. It means to hide or to store away or to preserve in your heart.
2. That's what happens to metabolized doctrine in the right lobe of the soul. It is stored away. It is kept in the memory bank of the right lobe.
3. Hence the teaching is kept in the soul, certainly for recall but also for application.
4. Keeping in the heart is the same process as Operation Z in the New Testament.
5. Keeping is the result of metabolized doctrine in the “**kardia**” where you can “**comply**”, and it becomes “**wheel tracks of righteousness**” “**trochia**”.

Psalm 119:11b: “That I might not make bad decisions” – Would be an expanded translation.

1. Accumulating an inventory of divine principles is a defense against sin.
2. Having an inventory of divine principles in your soul is also a defense against cosmic system falsehoods and propaganda.
3. This inventory is a defense against bad decisions that lead to wrong actions that bring self-induced misery.
4. Remember no matter how busy you get it is your obligation to teach your children!

I know this may shock you but with volition a young man may reject Bible Doctrine and go down the “my way highway” and some may never come back to it.

That is why it is so important to lead your children to the Lord. Because later in life it might be too late.

If this happens you, take courage that many great men of God have had children who have “went their own way” and failed. Some in a very big way.

Adam had “Cain”. **Genesis 4:8**

Noah had “Ham” the father of the Canaanites. **Genesis 9:22-25**

Abram had “Ishmael’ born to Hagar his servant girl, father of the Arab race and honored by Muslims. **Genesis 16:15-16**

Isaac had “Esau”. **Genesis 25:25**

Jacob had his murderous sons who sold their brother Joseph to Midianites who later sold him to Egypt. **Genesis 37:23-24**

David had Absalom (murderer and revolutionary) and Amnon (who raped his sister). **II Samuel 13:14**

"Billy Sunday was the most famous and successful evangelist of the early 1900's. He is remembered as a colorful preacher who led multitudes to Christ. Billy Sunday would be considered a success by almost any standard. Yet he lamented, **“The great tragedy of my life is that though I have led thousands to Christ, my own sons are not saved.”**

Indeed, his sons mocked their father's ministry and were drunks with horrible family lives, one ended his life by suicide.

We always have questions on discipline so let's get a couple of points on discipline:

Hebrews 12:5: “And you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are reprov'd by Him;”

Hebrews 12:6: “For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines (warning discipline), And He scourges (intensive discipline) every son whom He receives (all believers) with love.”

Divine discipline is illustrated by parental discipline of children. As fathers discipline their children motivated by love so too does God discipline His children from the source of love.

Hebrews 12:7: “It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?”

The biblical approach to training, instructing, punishing, and disciplining children requires that the parent be filled with the Holy Spirit and motivated by unconditional love.

Corporal punishment is required when parents observe a rebellious mental attitude. But it must never be administered because the parent loses patience, becomes infuriated because his authority has been challenged, is caused embarrassment, or is fed up.

Occasionally the parents must resort to corporal punishment simply because the child makes it necessary by rebellion. Parents must point out to the child that his

mental attitude is the cause, rebellion is the effect, and punishment will always be the expected result.

It must be explained that he has displeased his parents and that this is not honoring to the Lord. He must be assured that both his parents and God love him but that he must learn to love them back by obeying.

The child should admit to his wrongdoing before the punishment is applied. If sins are involved, the child should be taught to confess these sins to God for forgiveness.

The issue is not to get the child to say “I am sorry,” but to get him to admit, “I was wrong.”

The child has three obligations:

- a. Confess any sins involved to God.**
- b. Admit wrongdoing and trust that his victim will apply the royal law.**
- c. Submit to the penalty clause that applies to this violation.**

Parents must counsel the child to admit wrongdoing and then confess his sin to God. Then the parents tell the child they forgive him because God has forgiven him.

Benevolence is the word that describes the side of divine justice that imputes blessing and reward to those who accept and comply with divine standards.

Desiring blessing over discipline, the child will begin to make choices for compliance rather than noncompliance. But his compliance should be motivated by a desire to do what is right, not by force and fear.

Thus, parents must emphasize benevolence over severity. Their authority is granted for the purpose of teaching, guiding, and training. Severity is a part of this authority, but it is not its primary aspect.

Parents must expect misbehavior and occasional rebellion. They must not be surprised or disappointed. It must be regarded as a simple fact of life. It is to be expected and they must be prepared to deal with it.

But the child who willingly follows the leadership of his parents will gradually come to develop a deeper relationship with them.

Finally, a child learns to trust his parents' leadership if they do the same thing every time. He will come to trust them by becoming confident they will always do what they say. He is persuaded by a system that rewards good behavior and disciplines poor behavior.

Some summary principles:

- 1. You plant the gospel, and you water the gospel while they're young and they will get saved early. It's your job to lead these children to Christ. If God has given them to you, you lead them to Christ.**
- 2. You teach them divine norms and standards. You teach them Royal Family Honor code. You teach them what the protocol plan of God is. It's your job to train your children, to teach your children God's Word, to expose them to doctrine, the truth.**
- 3. But and this is very critical, children must see that Bible class and Bible doctrine is essential to both mom and dad together. They must see that mom and dad are both interested in the Word of God and grandparents if possible.**
- 4. Finally coming to bible class does not make you a role model. It's the application of what you learn in bible class that makes you the role model. That's the proof to them that you believe it. It's the application of what you learn here that is proof to them that you believe it.**

Now that they are in their late teens you must teach them that you must trust the Lord even when life doesn't make sense. The perfect example was Abraham! Hebrews 11:17-19

Always obey God, even when you don't understand why. Noah is the example here. I wonder if there were days when Noah was like, "Okay God, I've been working on this boat for decades! What am I doing with my life?" But we know he obeyed and preserved. Hebrews 11:7

Always have courage in the face of danger and Daniel is the prime example of demonstrating courage in the face of danger. When the king's advisors suggested he issue a decree to throw anyone into a den of lions if they prayed to any god and Daniel was unwavering. Daniel 6:10

Daniel knew his devotion to God was more important than anything including his physical safety.

Put the Lord first in everything you do. "Seek the kingdom of God and all these things will be added to you."

Remember no storm you will ever face can take away your eternal security. We may lose our car. We may lose people that we love. We may lose our fortune, but we can never lose our relationship with God.

Show boldness in sharing Christ with others! Paul is the perfect example to use when you discuss boldness in sharing Jesus Christ with others.

So now they turn 18 and they leave the nest! They are men according to the world are they ready to lead families, train sons (children) to become men God can use. Are they ready for God to use to change the course of history?

A great man puts God and others above his own desires.

Philippians 2:3: “Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;”

Being macho is not being a good husband, nor being a tyrant, a bully or anything else. It will turn the wife and children off and hurts and even destroys the relationship.

A real man can be strong and weak at the same time. He can work all day and still help with homework and be a father.

PRINCIPLE: You can’t take the place of a mother or wife. They must be part of the solution!

A man sacrifices their time so you can spend time with your children. You may have to give up other hobbies so you can spend time with your children.

If you don’t sacrifice your time when they’re young you won’t have a relationship with them when they’re older.

PRINCIPLE: Son’s need their father’s. A mother must step aside and let a father handle the discipline when it comes to a young man.

Proverbs 23:24: “The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him.”

This Godly man should be of noble character:

1. They should be selfless – Ephesians 5:25
2. They should be thoughtful – Ephesians 5:28
3. They have fidelity – Ephesians 5:33
4. You establish a pattern and challenge for your sons to follow.
5. You are to lead in spiritual growth and momentum:

1 John 2:13-14: “I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning...”

Vs. 14: “I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning...”

6. You must be loyal – 1 Kings 8:61: “Let your hearts therefore be loyal to the Lord our God, to walk in His statutes and keep His mandates as at this day.”
7. You must be accountable – Romans 14:12: “So then each one of us shall give an account of himself to God.”

PRINCIPLE: Lousy husbands make for lousy fathers.

Fathers are always to be on guard:

1. Do not be distracted – 2 Timothy 2:22
2. Do not be deceived – Ephesians 4:22-23
3. Do not be dominated – Romans 6:12 and 12:2

1 Corinthians 16:13: “Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.”

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, years ago, said that “the biggest change he saw while serving in the Senate for 36 years was, “That one thing is true in all civilizations: Boys need men as fathers. You can’t raise boys without men.”

A man makes a good husband, father, a great person to have in his community. He may be quiet or outspoken, but either way he has tremendous impact on his family, his friends, and the entire nation.

Psalms 112:2: “His descendants will be mighty on earth; The generation of the upright will be blessed.”

Men of courage and integrity are not ruled by fear or fame, but by wisdom.

Fathers are to use wisdom in applying the Word of God.

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

Colossians 3:21: “Fathers, do not exasperate your children, that they may not lose heart.”

Fathers are to make maximum impact in the Angelic Conflict:

1. Stand firm – 1 Corinthians 16:13
2. Stand fearless – Ephesians 6:10-11; Romans 8:31-32

The profile of a faithful father:

1. Faithful – 1 Corinthians 4:2
2. Always last – Philippians 2:3-4
3. Trustworthy – Proverbs 20:6-7
4. Humble – 1 Peter 5:5
5. Encouraging – 1 Thessalonians 5:14
6. Respectable – Colossians 4:5-6

The duty of a faithful father is found in Deuteronomy 6:1-9; 11:18-22.

PRINCIPLE: A father's words are like a thermostat that sets the temperature in the house.

PRINCIPLE: One of the greatest things a father can do for his children is love their mother.

PRINCIPLE: What you teach your children, you also teach their children.

PRINCIPLE: Being a great father is like shaving. No matter how good you shaved today, you have to do it again tomorrow.

PRINCIPLE: Every father should remember one day his son will follow his example, not his advice.

PRINCIPLE: To the world you are a dad. To your family you are the world.

As a man you need the faith of Abraham, the obedience of Noah, the courage of Daniel, the heart of David and the boldness of Paul.

We must teach our children that we live in the Devils world and if you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, there is a target on your back.

John 16:2: "They will make you outcast from the synagogue, but the hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think he is offering service to God."

You will find incredible strength in God's provisions. Peace, confidence, courage, insight and discernment.

Colossians 1:27: "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Where do mothers fit into this equation? Here are a few things for you to consider.

When you children come home from school be ready to deprogram them. Discuss what they learned that day so you can clear up in confusion or contradictory information they were taught that day.

Strive to be a virtuous responder that you are meant to be. Remember it's a team effort.

When answering a question or giving guidance bring it back to the Word of God. Use your time to guide them.

Be consistent when it comes to norms and standards and chores that are required of your children.

You and your husband must agree in your approach.

The real beauty of an unbelievable wife/mother/woman/grandmother is in her soul.

Proverbs 31:30b: "But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised." (To fear, means to stand in awe or respect. What we know about God, we know from His divine word that has been preserved for us. Thus, respecting God implies obedience to His mandates found in scripture.)

Your true beauty is what you think, your response to God's word.

No mother can afford to be ordinary! She must plant the seeds of doctrine in her children and encourage the spiritual life of her husband.

Wives, moms and grandmothers are the backbone of the country. It can be their faith and encouragement that stabilizes the future of this nation.

No matter what a woman possesses, be it exterior beauty, materialistic things, even status in society, all these are totally meaningless unless she has the inner beauty and stability which comes from Biblical wisdom circulating in her soul.

You are not disillusioned with life, not discouraged by circumstances, not full of bitterness, nor possessive. She has strength and dignity. A truly extraordinary lady.

This is how ordinary ladies become extraordinary members of the pivot.

Proverbs 31:25a: "Strength and dignity are her clothing,"

Now let's get a few points on grandparents and then we'll close out today with a few final points on men.

I know in most cases grandparents are in the background. However, you can be a tremendous help to the parents especially in the area of imparting Biblical wisdom and reinforcing what the parents are teaching. (Church can also be helpful in this area as can other family members.)

Grandparents can teach us life lessons. Grandparents have the unique position of being able to shape future generations by sharing the numerous pieces of wisdom they've accumulated over the years. Age means experience and knowledge. This isn't their first rodeo. They can help assure that kids go on to become productive and strong adults by sharing with them the mistakes they made along the way and the lessons that they learned.

Grandparents can be excellent friends. Grandparents have a little flexibility in that they don't have to be as strict as parents do. The parents must worry about school, and grades, and diet, etc. But grandparents can be a great source of companionship for kids without imposing too much pressure on them. They can be especially helpful in reinforcing the Biblical Principles being taught by the parents.

Grandparents offer a sense of stability. Grandparents are the steady rock in a crazy world. Kids can generally always rely on their grandparents to show them love and be there for them. Your grandparents will always be your grandparents, no matter what. They are always just a phone call away any time you need them.

In our society today many families have both mom and dad working all day. Grandparents can be very influential in teaching Bible Doctrine to their grandchildren, and they are very effective at giving the Gospel in the short time they are with them.

Finally, grandparents offer endless unconditional love. Everyone needs love and grandparents offer it in spades. The most amazing part is that there are no strings attached to their love either. It simple is. Just like normal parents, grandparent's love grandchildren completely unconditionally. Unfortunately, many kids don't realize just how important their relationship is with their grandparents until it is too late.

Job 5:7: "For man is born for trouble, as sparks fly upward."

The only way for a man to keep from self-destructing is to acquire Divine Viewpoint under Grace Orientation.

The Lord takes nobodies and makes them somebodies all by His grace.

The Bible is full of men God used. Ordinary men who did amazing things by means of His grace provisions and each one of them had an opportunity to self-destruct by means of bad decisions.

There is not one man in this room who does not have the potential to become extraordinary by means of God's grace provisions.

- a. Noah – The man of obedience
- b. Joseph – The man of misfortune and fame
- c. Gideon – The man of courage
- d. Sampson – The man of strength and submission
- e. David – The man of faith and failure

1 Corinthians 16:13: “**Be on the alert** (present active imperative – command) (give strict attention to...lest through laziness destructive calamity suddenly overtake you) (vigilance rather than laxity and indifference), **stand firm** (present active imperative - command) (to persevere in your spiritual life...to be anchored) **in the faith, be courageous, be strong** (present active imperative – command) (Be in good spiritual shape. Not a spiritual weakling and this requires discipline and routine).”

1 Corinthians 16:13: “**Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong.**”

Galatians 5:1: “**It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.**”

1. A lot of men have come and gone through the doors of this church. Some through negative volition, some through distraction and some through physical death.

2. There is not one of them who did not have the opportunity to be a preservative of this client nation.

3. Some did the job and grew to spiritual maturity, and some went AWOL.

4. It takes humility to admit you abandoned your post. But it's never too late to get back in the game before you are thrown away as useless salt with no flavor.

5. Has your spiritual life helped preserve this client nation?

6. Have you been a divinely appointed influencer that had impact in the visible or invisible realm?

7. There are a lot of examples of nobodies who become somebodies due to their conversion and spiritual growth.

- a. Charles Spurgeon
- b. Martin Luther
- c. Billy Sunday
- d. Billy Graham

You don't have to be the smartest guy in your class nor the most influential guy in your circle, nor have the finest family pedigree, to be used by God.

**The one thing you must have is you must have the willingness to adhere to the protocol plan of God and develop your spiritual life.
Without faith, understanding faith-rest, you are not qualified, God cannot use you.
The man God uses must be able to focus on the solution not the problem.**

Let me give you the characteristics of the man that God cannot use.

- 1. God cannot use a coward. Luke 12:4; 2 Timothy 1:7**
- 2. God cannot use a self-centered man. Luke 12:16-21**
- 3. God cannot use a quitter. Philippians 3:12-14**
- 4. God cannot use a deceitful man that is a liar. Psalm 5:6**
- 5. God cannot use a double minded man. James 1:8**
- 6. God cannot use a foolish man. Proverbs 14:6**
- 7. God cannot use a self-righteous man.**

So, you need to be a "wise man".

Matthew 7:24: "Whoever hears what I say and obeys, I deem him a wise man."

Proverbs 1:5: "A wise man will hear and increase learning. A man of understanding will attain wise counsel."

Be a man that can take responsibility for his decisions.

You must have courage to face adversity without wilting under the pressure.

You must be willing to lead your family.

You must have a lifestyle of trust. It's critical.

Psalm 31:1: "I will put my trust in you, oh Lord, never let me be ashamed. Deliver me, be my rock, lead me, guide me from the snare of my enemy. You're your hands I commit my spirit, oh Lord, God of Truth."

The man God uses must understand the Scriptures.

Psalm 119:130: "The entrance of Your Word gives light. It gives understanding to the simple."

Proverbs 18:2: "A fool does not delight in understanding; he just delights in giving his own opinion."

The man God uses must voluntarily submit to the slavery of the master!

1 Peter 1:18: “Knowing this, that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold, from your futile way of life inherited from your ancestors. You were redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, a lamb without spot and without blemish.”

Men and women, you had better get with doctrine. If your spiritual life is not priority number one, and you don't have a love affair with your Lord you have a decision to make. Step up and be counted or become a battlefield casualty and take your entire family along with you. We need men in this country today and God could use a few more spiritually mature men trained and ready for battle.