

Biblical Grandparenting

I. The Privilege...

Proverbs 17:6...Grandchildren are the crown of old men,
And the glory of sons is their fathers.

II. The Profile...Godly Character

Titus 2:1-5 But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine.

2 Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance.

3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, **4** so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, **5** to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

III. Perpetuating Biblical Truth...

Deuteronomy 4:9 “Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons.

Deuteronomy 6:6,7

Deuteronomy 11:19

Ephesians 6:4

Psalms 78 Listen, O my people, to my instruction;
Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will utter dark sayings of old,

3 Which we have heard and known,

And our fathers have told us.

4 We will not conceal them from their children,
But tell to the generation to come the praises of the Lord,
And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done.
5 For He established a testimony in Jacob
And appointed a law in Israel,
Which He commanded our fathers
That they should teach them to their children,
6 That the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be
born,
That they may arise and tell them to their children,
7 That they should put their confidence in God
And not forget the works of God,
But keep His commandments,
8 And not be like their fathers,
A stubborn and rebellious generation,
A generation that did not prepare its heart
And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Notable Grandparents...

Lois (2 Timothy 1)..3 I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day, 4 longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well.

Estelle...

IV. Presence...

“Being a grandparent is an exciting calling. Many a grandparent has said that if they knew grandchildren were so much fun, they’d have skipped the kids and gone straight to the grandkids! Have fun with your grandchildren. Build lifelong memories. Share wisdom. Serve the Lord alongside them, if possible. Listen when they are struggling. Be a shoulder to lean on. But, above all, be a godly example and influence, not afraid to speak up with God’s truth, even when it’s difficult.”
Avery Foley

- Support Mom and Dad...and know when to step aside.
- Personal time
- Listen
- Encourage
- Appreciate individuality...interests, aptitudes

V. Perspective...Share wisdom

- Lessons learned
- God's provision and faithfulness

Psalm 145:4 "One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts."

Psalm 100:5 "For the LORD is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation."

Psalm 37:25 "I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread."

VI. Prayer...

How To Pray For Your Children and Grandchildren

Wayne Stiles

"The list is not a magic formula. It doesn't guarantee that God will answer right away. But prayer is powerful, even when the answer is delayed.

Because there are 12 prayers in this list, you could concentrate on one prayer per month. Within a year you will have consistently prayed the entire list.

1. That they will know Christ as Savior early in life.

Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. —Romans 10:1

From infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. —2 Timothy 3:15

2. That they will have a hatred for sin.

Let those who love the LORD hate evil, for He guards the lives of His faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked. —Psalm 97:10

3. That they will be caught when guilty.

It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees. —Psalm 119:71

4. That they will be protected from the evil one in each area of their lives: spiritual, physical, emotional, social.

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. —Luke 2:52

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. —John 17:15

5. That they will have a responsible attitude in all their interpersonal relationships.

Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. —Daniel 6:3

6. That they will respect those in authority over them.

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. —Romans 13:1

7. That they will desire the right kind of friends and be protected from the wrong friends.

My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them. If they say, “Come along with us; let’s lie in wait for someone’s blood, let’s waylay some harmless soul.” —Proverbs 1:10-11

8. That they will be kept from the wrong mate and directed to the right one.

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? —2 Corinthians 6:14

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.” —Genesis 2:18

9. That they, as well as the one they marry, will remain pure before and after marriage.

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. —1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge. —Hebrews 13:4

10. That they will learn to submit completely to God and actively resist Satan in all circumstances.

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. —James 4:7

11. That they will be single-hearted, willing to be sold out to Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God –this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. —Romans 12:1-2

12. That they will be hedged in so they cannot find their way to wrong people or wrong places and that the wrong people cannot find their way to them.

Therefore I will block her path with thornbushes; I will wall her in so that she cannot find her way. —Hosea 2:6”

<https://waynestiles.com/how-to-pray-for-your-children-and-grandchildren/>

What will your legacy be?

Proverbs 13:22a...A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children

“We often think of “inheritance” in terms of money, valuable possessions, or property. But we leave our children and grandchildren so much more than that. When God takes us home, we leave behind a ‘spiritual inheritance’...a legacy that will long outlive us. This legacy can be either positive or negative. What legacy are you leaving behind?” Ken Ham

“Our goal should never be just to be liked by our grandchildren. It should be to share God’s works and goodness with them so that the next generation and the generation after may praise and glorify the name of the Lord God.” Avery Foley

Jacob’s Blessing of Joseph...

Genesis 48...15 He blessed Joseph, and said,
“The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked,
The God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day,
16 The angel who has redeemed me from all evil,
Bless the lads;
And may my name live on in them,
And the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac;
And may they grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.”

“In Jacob's blessing there is a threefold appellation of the Deity, and a threefold blessing given to Joseph's sons. God is, first, the Elohim before whom his fathers had walked. Next, He is the Elohim who, as a shepherd, had watched over Jacob

all his life long. But, thirdly, He is that Divine Presence which had been, and still was, Jacob's "goel," redeeming and rescuing him from all evil.

The word "goel" is here used for the first time...it is here used in its wider sense of a Saviour and a Deliverer...Jacob recognised a Divine Presence which constantly guarded him, and which was ever his Redeemer and Saviour." Charles John Ellicott

Appendix 1...

Spurgeon's Secret for Raising Godly Children

“On September 20, 1856, Charles Spurgeon came home to an unexpected surprise – twin sons. Susannah had given birth on that Saturday morning to Charles and Thomas.

Spurgeon taught his sons to love the Bible. He also encouraged them to study the historic confessions of faith like the Westminster Catechism and the Second London Confession of 1689. To make sure his sons were grounded firmly in the gospel, Spurgeon waited until their eighteenth birthday to baptize them. ‘I would have children taught all the great doctrines of truth without a solitary exception.’

Both Thomas and Charles followed in their father’s footsteps and became Christian ministers. Spurgeon was constantly surrounded by children from the orphanage. He edited a catechism for kids and also wrote a book entitled Come Ye Children.

Children brought out Spurgeon’s brightest and tenderest side. His biographers claimed Spurgeon himself was childlike in his faith and in his preaching. Even children could understand the lofty theological doctrines he incarnated in the pulpit. ‘You do not thoroughly know any truth till you can put it before a child so that he can see it.’

Here are thirteen quotes by Spurgeon about raising Godly children...

1. “As soon as a child is capable of being lost, it is capable of being saved.”
2. “Whether we teach young Christians truth or not, the devil will be sure to teach them error.”
3. “Children will imitate their fathers in their vices, seldom in their repentance.”

4. "Some of the worst of men have been the children of godly parents."
5. "If we never have headaches through rebuking our children, we shall have plenty of heartaches when they grow up."
6. "We must not expect to see our children blessed unless we ourselves grow in grace."
7. "What a blessing to have our children enlisted in Christ's army!"
8. "If you want the eminent men in God's Church, look for them amongst those converted in youth."
9. "I hope we seldom bow the knee without praying for our children."
10. "You cannot pray for your children if you do not pray for yourselves."
11. "It is not your instruction that can save the souls of your children; it is the blessing of God the Holy Spirit accompanying your labours."
12. "It is not very easy, I know, to preach Christ to little children, but there is nothing else worth preaching."
13. "Give us the first seven years of a child, with God's grace, and we may defy the world, the flesh, and the devil."

Spurgeon's Secret

Spurgeon knew how to raise Godly children because his parents and grandparents raised him to fear the Lord.

'Here, then, is the secret. You must impart to the young your own soul; you must feel as if the ruin of that child would be your own ruin.'

Speaking about his own family tree, Spurgeon said, 'O that the line may continue for years to come, till as long as generations are born there shall be one of our kith and kin to carry the standard and sound the trumpet and fight for the Lord of Israel.'

Today, the Spurgeon family continues to uphold their ancestor's great legacy and love for reaching the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ."

<https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/blog-entries/spurgeons-secret-for-raising-godly-children>

Appendix 2...

Four Biblical Roles of Grandparenting

ROLE 1 God wants you to be a BLESSING GIVER

"The memory of the righteous will be a **blessing**..." -Prov. 10:7

Be a Blessing Giver:

Spiritually by:

- *praying* for them and with them
- *encouraging* them in their growth and gifts
- *valuing* them as God's special creation

Emotionally by:

- *celebrating* their accomplishments
- *encouraging* them through their struggles
- *communicating* unconditional love always

Physically by:

- providing a home where they're *always welcome*
- providing arms where they're *always safe*
- providing an atmosphere where they're *always accepted*
-

ROLE 2 God wants you to be a LEGACY MAKER

"The righteous man leads a **blameless life**; blessed are his children after him." -Prov. 20:7

Be a Legacy Maker by:

Bringing honor to your family reputation through godly living

- *living* a life of integrity both publicly and privately
- *bringing* the best out in those around you

Making decisions based on an eternal perspective

- *finishing* well- always have the end goal in mind
- *loving* people and using things instead of loving things and using people

Leaving 'good tracks' for your grandchildren to follow

- *letting* them know why you do what you do
- *being* and example of faithful living

ROLE 3 God wants you to be a TORCH BEARER

"Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come." -Psalm 71:18

Be a **Torchbearer**...

Of the gospel to your grandchildren and your community

- make sure your grandchildren hear the truth of the gospel
- trust the Holy Spirit to draw them on His time schedule
- demonstrate a consistent concern and compassion for unsaved people

Of moral living in an immoral world

- take bold yet gracious stands on moral issues
- show them how to flourish spiritually in a hostile culture
- teach your grandchildren to develop discernment as you help them evaluate their world

ROLE 4 God wants you to be a STANDARD SETTER

"The righteous will flourish like a palm tree...They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming, 'The Lord is upright; He is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in Him.'" -Psalm 92:12,14-15

Be a **Standard Setter**...

By modeling, teaching and encouraging:

- inspiring faith
- consistent integrity
- practical poise
- personal discipline
- steadfast endurance
- contagious courage

<https://familymatters.net/grace-based-parenting>