

Our Momentous Goal to Raise a Godly Seed
Malachi 2:15
Ephesians 6:4; Col. 3:21

Colossians 3:21; Provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

- To provoke means to excite to exasperation and irritation. This results in breaking the spirit of our child; they become angry and then lose heart.

Ephesians 6:4; And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Proverbs 18:14; The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

- Fill in the blank:
 - 1) To me, my children are a _____.
 - 2) The reason I have/want children is _____.
- Let's consider three ways to bring up our children in God's way:

1. Loving ACCEPTANCE of your Children: "bring them up..."

- How do you bless and show delight in your children?
- Here are ways that parents provoke their children to wrath:
 - A. **Encouraging Words**:
 - B. **Loving Prayers**:
 - C. **Wise Guidance**: Proverbs 22:6
 - D. **Precious Time**:
 - E. **Appropriate Gifts**:

2. Loving CORRECTION of Your Children: "in the nurture..."

The word "nurture" is a general word for child training, and it is used of the Lord's chastening of us (Acts 7:22, Acts 22:3, Titus 2:12, Hebrews 12:5-10).

A. Mistakes we make in discipline:

- 1) **NO** discipline:

Proverbs 22:15; Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him. (Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 23:13,14; 29:15,17)

Proverbs 27:22; Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.

- 2) **Inconsistent** discipline:
- 3) **Abusive** discipline:
- 4) **Unreasonable** discipline:

B. Steps in Good Discipline:

- 1) Buy a rod (a neutral object)
- 2) Establish the guideline (No lying, disobedience, swearing, or fits)
- 3) The location: Take the child aside.
- 4) The Question: Ask, “what did you do?”
- 5) The Gospel: Say, “God punishes sin, and I have to punish your sin, too.” Give them the Gospel!

Proverbs 23:14; Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

- 6) The Action: Swat a couple of times, drawing tears, not blood!
- 7) The Restitution: Have the child ask forgiveness.
- 8) The Reassurance: Express love and a hug.
- 9) The Conclusion: Pray, forgive, and move on.

3. Loving INSTRUCTION of the Child: “and admonition of the Lord.”

- A. **SAVED** by God, Ephesians 2:8,9
- B. **SURRENDERED** to God, Romans 12:1,2
- C. **SATISFIED** with God, John 10:10