

Family and Parenting



MEMORY VERSE: Discipline your children, and they will give you happiness and peace of mind. When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild. But whoever obeys the law is happy.
Proverbs 29:17,18



EPHESIANS 5:21-6:4 — God's Design for Family

1. What does God want every believer to do? Why? Ephesians 5:21
2. What is God's instruction to wives? Ephesians 5:22-24,33
3. What do you think healthy submission does, or does not, look like in a family?
4. Why is the wife's role and attitude so important? Proverbs 31:10-13
5. What instructions and warning does God give husbands? Ephesians 5:25-33, 6:4

6. What are children called to do? Ephesians 6:1-3

7. Why is a parent's faith in God so crucial to the health of children according to Proverbs?
14:26,27

20:7

B The Battle For Our Children

8. In 2 Timothy 2:22, Paul warns Timothy to "flee the evil desires of youth" (NIV). What unique battles do you think youths face?

9. How does Satan's goal for our children compare with God's plan? John 10:10

10. What is true about children according to these Proverbs?
22:6

22:15

11. What choices must children make to win the battle for their lives? Proverbs 23:15-25

12. How does God instruct parents regarding discipline of children in the following Proverbs?

13:24

19:18

20:30

23:12-14

29:15

13. Why do you think people today tend to be opposed to spanking their children?

14. Every child is different and so they respond differently to discipline. What have you found to be effective methods of discipline either as a parent or when you were a child?



Hope for the Future

15. What truths are given in our memory verse? Proverbs 29:17,18

16. How have you seen these truths lived out?

17. What does verse 27:11 add to these truths?

18. As it is with us, our children mess up and fall into sin, and like us, they need love and forgiveness. How can we be good parents to our children? Colossians 3:12-14

19. Our children can hurt, offend and anger us. What have you found helpful in helping restore your child after they have sinned?

20. How do you imagine the future will be affected by the ways we parent our children?

WALK IN TRUTH



Strong families make strong communities. Too often people put work, pleasure and even ministry ahead of their families, and they suffer the consequences of failing to take proper care of their marriage or children. We must ask God to help us be like He is when it comes to family. Our Father loves us and gives us His undivided attention and guidance. He disciplines us, but always forgives and restores us. He causes or allows pain in our lives but is never abusive. He never gives up on us and continually reminds us of how much He loves us, so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross in our place to pay the penalty for our sins so that we can spend eternity with Him. May we love our families as God loves us!