

PARENTING SEMINAR – AUGUST 8, 2026

INTRODUCTION

Faithful parenting is based on both who you are before God and what you do in obedience to God—Deut 6:4-9. This informs your role in Eph 6:1/Col 3:20 in light of the sinful folly in your children (Prov 22:15).

Eph 6:4—The stated preventative measure to abstain from provoking our children to anger is to provide (*nourish*) discipline & instruction in the Lord (training & teaching).

DISCIPLINE/TRAINING

Heb 12:4-11—our Heavenly Father's example of discipline is painful & purposeful.

What are the wrong purposes of discipline?

- Anger
- Punishment
- Full transformation

What are the right purposes of discipline?

- Faithfulness
- Connect sin with consequences
- Readiness to receive instruction
- Restoration

What are the futile substitutes commonly used instead of discipline?

- Bribery
- Empty threats
- Time-outs
- Distractions
- Reasoning with redirection

Col 3:21—What are the common ways to exasperate a younger child to the point of losing hope?

- Scolding that merely heaps shame on the child
- Changing the standard of what is a spankable offense
- Parenting by intimidation due to having a louder voice and stronger body
- Only pointing out wrong behavior while rarely mentioning hope and encouragement

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INSTRUCTION/TEACHING

Instruction=putting truth into the mind (Prov 1:2-3, 7, 4:1-6)

When?—reactive (upon disobedience) and proactive (Biblical teachings)

What?—the indicatives (Who God is and what he has done) and imperatives (What he commands from his people)

How?—By asking questions and responding with appropriate truth

What are the common errors parents make as their kids get older?

-Making no transition to a different emphasis in parenting

-Rely on stockpiling consequences

Col 3:21—What are the common ways to exasperate an older child to the point of losing hope?

-Scolding that heaps shame (not acknowledging the commonality of being a sinner)

-Comparing a child with another inside or outside the home

-Responding in like manner to foolish disrespect (Prov 26:4-5)

-Only pointing out wrong behavior while never or rarely providing hope or encouragement

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