

Developing Obedience, Respect and Manners in Children



Four points to consider...

1. You must be ***deliberately intentional*** about what happens in your home and the time you spend training your family
2. Being a disciple of Christ requires great ***discipline***
3. Every home is a ***classroom***. What is yours teaching?
4. Nothing that does NOT occur on a ***daily basis*** will ever change your life

Training in Obedience:

Hebrews 12:5-11 Discipline brings peace

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child...

Proverbs 13:24-What's the Rod (Shebet)?

Proper Use of the Rod:

Proverbs 22:15

Proverbs 23:13-14

Proverbs 29:15, 17

Luke 2:41-52



Practical Lessons from Jesus

- 12 was a turning point age for Jesus.
- Jesus at age 12 showed:
 1. Had mature sense of responsibility, purpose and destiny
 2. Had the trust of His parents
 3. Knew what to do and what not to do without being told
 4. Was responsible for handling His money wisely.
 5. Had a desire for the things of God
 6. Exhibited a keen sense of discernment in relation to the company He kept
 7. Had a burning hunger to understand truth and wisdom
 8. Was obedient to His parents (no bad attitudes, rebellion or disobedience)
 9. Was totally committed to God and had a desire to be in church
 10. Had an unmistakable evidence of “Godliness” in His life (if they don’t have it by 12, they probably aren’t going to get it)

Jesus' Homelife

- He went through the mundane of life in Nazareth:
 - Cleaning up after meals
 - Doing chores
 - Learning the Torah (the Bible)
 - Helping his father in his business
 - Taking responsibility...being the oldest to at least 6 siblings...
- “Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? Aren't all his sisters with us?”



Matthew 13:55-56

Obedience to parents- training ground for obedience to God

- How many times should you have to ask for something to be done?
- Should you have to count?
- When should you expect obedience?
 - Immediately (not later or in a few minutes)
 - Completely (not partially)
 - Dutifully (with a good attitude)

Do you have a Child-Run Home?

Parents in a child-run home will be heard saying things like:

- I can't make that for dinner at our house, the kids just won't eat it.
- I prepare meals in two batches—one for my husband and me and one for the kids.
- We can't go there, the kids would get bored.
- We can't take our kids into the church service, they'd never last.
- We'll probably be changing teachers or possibly schools because our little Bobby doesn't enjoy Mrs. So & So.
- I don't want her to hate me...
- You bribe them to obey

Whatever we allow in moderation our children will take to excess!

Children: How do you talk “to” and “about” your parents?

- What kind of things do you say to your parents?
- How do you talk about their appearance?
- What do you say about them when they aren't around?
- Are you encouraging to them or tear them down?
- Do you respectfully say, “Yes Sir” and “Yes Ma'am?”

Child or Young Adult:

How to tell if it's "all about YOU..."

- You can't say, "NO" to yourself
- You are self absorbed
- When you sin, you habitually deny responsibility...nothing is ever your fault
- You blame others or your parents if something doesn't go right for you
- You resent work, chores or responsibility and are lazy and run from "work" around the house
- You roll your eyes, huff, puff and sigh when asked to do anything
- Taking "initiative" is a foreign concept to you
- You are ungrateful for the food, clothes and shelter you've been provided
- You complain, whine and moan about things constantly and get visibly angry if you don't get your way
- You're preoccupied with fun, excitement, entertainment and self-gratification and are frequently bored

Teaching Obedience

- Do not do for your children what they should do for themselves
- If they dirty something, they should clean it
- If they're old enough to "get it out," they are old enough to "put it up"
- If they leave a door open, they should go back and close it
- If they turn something on, they should turn it off
- Don't bail them out when they've acted irresponsibly
- Don't state for them time after time the established guidelines for chores and standards of behavior...consequences must follow quickly
- Don't wake them daily when they are old enough to set an alarm clock or you will create dependence on you and they will blame you for not getting them up
- Don't do homework assignments for them
- Don't pay for their mistakes...if they "break it," they pay for it

Is your home a “Holiday Inn?”




Holiday Inn
Grand Haven ♦ Spring Lake



Characteristics of Mannerly Children

1. Confide in their parents (conceal nothing)
2. Practice Self-Denial
3. Thoughtfulness and Kindness
4. Share in the Work
5. No “Kidults”

Important Questions about Children

What we make a child love and desire is more important than what we make a child learn.

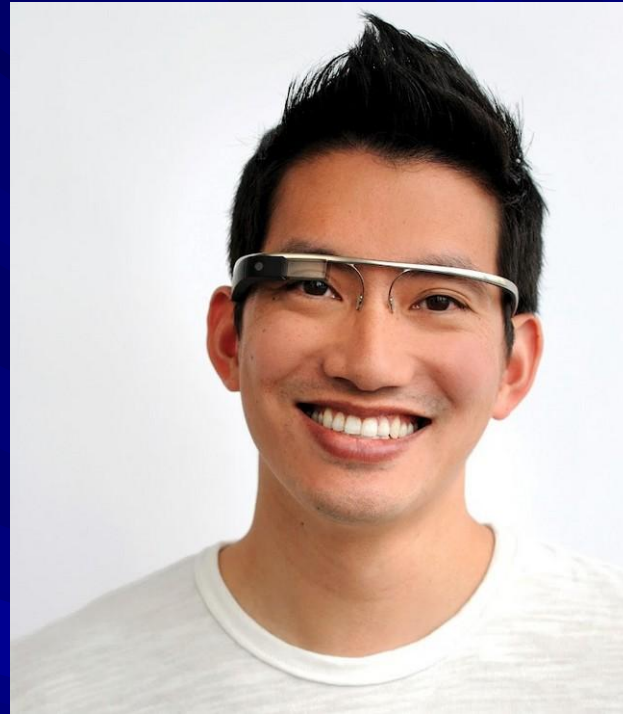
1. What are their desires and cravings?
2. What love and desire are you cultivating in your child's heart?
3. Are you teaching your child to be a servant or inadvertently just to love himself?

Who is our children's friends? Peer Influence...

- Peer influence is the single most destructive influence in our children's lives.
- Everyone you are around is either discipling you or you are discipling them and it is usually working both ways at the same time. (This is for all of us...at all ages.)

Media Influence-the demise of children

- **Power of Media!** It's everywhere!
- Kids aren't exercising or playing anymore.
- **MOVIES/DVD's/MUSIC**
What kind of movies and DVD's do our children watch? What about at Grandma and Grandpa's house? What kind of music are our children listening to?
- Don't waste precious time (My family—cleaning...)
- What kind of toys do our kids beg for? Go down the cereal aisle...



Regaining control

- You must expect your children to obey your word...no questions asked. (Explain after the obedience comes...just like with God!)
- Don't allow the child to argue with you. You are not trying to “persuade” your child to obey, you are “expecting” your child to obey.
- Talk, talk, talk
- Rules without relationship lead to rebellion
- What you are after is their heart. The behavior will follow. Shepherd their heart, not their behavior