

GUIDING YOUR KIDS TOWARDS THEIR FUTURE

Parenting in the 21st Century: Part 2

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"I will GUIDE them to streams of water, on a smooth road where they will not stumble. I am like a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my eldest son." (Jeremiah 31:9, GNB)

5 Principles to GUIDE Your Kids

Grapple with the tension between the REAL and the IDEAL.

"As the Scriptures say, "No one is good—no one in all the world is innocent." No one has ever really followed God's paths...Every one has turned away; all have gone wrong. No one anywhere has kept on doing what is right; not one." (Romans 3:10–12, The Living Bible)

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14, NIV)

Jesus came to do 3 things:

- PARDON us from our past.
- POINT us towards His principles.
- EMPOWER us with His Spirit.

Understand the difference between GUIDING and GOADING.

"The LORD says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." (Psalm 32:8, NLT)

"[Parents], do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4, NIV)

The 4 Parenting Styles

- **Permissive:** "I should say no, but...What would you like?"
- **Neglectful:** "I don't care. Do whatever you want."
- **Authoritarian:** "Because I said so...cause I'm your father/mother!"
- **Authoritative:** "Tell me what you're thinking...Here's where we're going to land."

"With your faithful love, you will lead the people you have redeemed; you will guide them to your holy dwelling with your strength." (Exodus 15:13, CSB)

*“**You guide me** with your **counsel**, leading me to a glorious destiny.” (Psalm 73:24, NLT)*

*“Your **word** is a lamp to **guide my feet** and a light for my path.” (Psalm 119:105, NLT)*

Identify their **GIFTEDNESS**.

*“Train up a child in the way he should go [and **in keeping with his individual gift or bent**], and when he is old he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6, AMP)*

*“[God,] Your hands **shaped me** and made me.” (Job 10:8a, NIV)*

How to Discover What Your Child’s Good at

- **AFFIRM** the truth that they are gifted.
- Play the field but also be a little **PUSHY**.
- Be their biggest **FAN** and provide their most honest **FEEDBACK**.
- Emphasize **CHARACTER** over competence.

Direct them towards their **PURPOSE**.

*“The Lord will work out **his plans for my life**—for your loving-kindness, Lord, continues forever...” (Psalm 138:8, The Living Bible, Paraphrased)*

*“For we are God’s **masterpiece**. He has **created us anew** in Christ Jesus, **so we can do the good things he planned for us** long ago.” (Ephesians 2:10, NLT)*

“Love does not demand its own way.” (1 Corinthians 13:5b, The Living Bible)

Encourage them towards **GREATNESS**.

*“So **encourage each other and build each other up**, just as you are already doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11, NLT)*

*“So encourage each other with these **words**.” (1 Thessalonians 4:18, NLT)*

ACTION STEPS:

Serve in Oak Ridge Kids!

Attend Parent Con