



Sermon Guide: Parenting 11/16/25

Text(s): Proverbs 1:8-9; 6:20-22; 22:29; 22:16; 22:15; 3:11-12; 13:24; 12:25; 16:24; 10:11; 4:10-11; Psalm 23:4

Big Idea: *Wise parenting is directional, not accidental.*

Summary of the Sermon - Proverbs calls parents to guide their children intentionally toward the path of wisdom and shows that children need unified parents, steady daily influence, loving correction, and a lived example of faithfulness. Since folly is bound up in the heart of a child, parents must be patient, consistent, and long-suffering in their discipline, just as God is patient and gracious with us. Ultimately, our confidence is not in perfect parenting but in the God who guides us and our children with unfailing wisdom.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean that “wise parenting is directional, not accidental,” and how does this reframe the modern vision of parenting?
2. Why is unity between parents so important, and what are practical ways parents can move toward unity in voice and purpose?
3. How does understanding Proverbs 22:6 as a pattern—not a promise—change the way we interpret this verse?
4. Brainstorm ways to make “small daily deposits” in a child’s heart over time? Be creative!
5. What does Proverbs mean when it says “folly is bound up in the heart of a child,” and how should this affect our patience in discipline?
6. How does the biblical image of the “rod” challenge both harsh and passive approaches to discipline? Discuss the role discipline played in your family growing up. What was modeled for you? Does that impact the methods you use with your children?
7. What personal strategies can you use to make sure you keep love at the forefront of your correction and discipline? For those who no longer have kids in the home - what does caring for your children look like now that they are no longer in a position to be disciplined by you?
8. What part of the gospel most encourages you in your parenting—especially in the areas where you feel you have fallen short?
9. How does the gospel empower us to pursue healing in relationships that feel beyond repair?



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Scripture for Further Study:

1. Passages on Parental Influence & Teaching

- Deuteronomy 6:4–9
- Psalm 78:1–8
- Ephesians 6:1–4
- Colossians 3:20–21
- Proverbs 4:1–13

2. Passages on God's Loving Discipline (Model for Parents)

- Hebrews 12:5–11
- Revelation 3:19
- Psalm 23

3. Passages on Folly, Wisdom, and the Heart

- Proverbs 1:1–7
- Proverbs 9:10
- Jeremiah 17:9–10
- James 1:5

4. Passages on God's Grace for Parents & Children

- Luke 15:11–24
- Isaiah 40:11
- Philippians 1:6
- 2 Timothy 1:5