

Twisted

PART 2: TRAIN UP A CHILD

Introduction

You don't have to be a parent to have opinions on parenting. We all have ideas about what we would do in different situations "if those were my kids..." It's easy to get caught up in behavior management and miss the opportunities we have to shape the hearts of kids both inside and outside of our immediate circles. Ultimately, raising our kids demands raising our faith.

Discussion Questions

1. We all know that kids do not come with guarantees. But if you could have a few, which ones would you want?
2. What do you think is the role of a parent? What do we owe our kids and kids in general?
3. Read Proverbs 22:6. This "*word of wisdom*" came from Solomon, and it's safe to say he had his share of issues with his kids in adulthood. So, what do you think he means by this proverb?

4. Proverbs 22:6 is actually more of a warning than a promise (bummer, huh?).

Scholars point out that the more accurate translation states, "Train a child according to his way and he will continue in it his whole life." One scholar writes, "In other words, not 'Here's the good result that you can count on when you give a child proper parental guidance,' but 'Here's the bad result that may happen if you don't give a child proper parental guidance, but let him do what he wants.'" [Douglas K. Stuart, "'The Cool of the Day' (Gen. 3:8) and 'The Way He Should Go' (Prov. 22:6)," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 171, no. 683 (July-September 2014), 271.] **Knowing that, how does your view of the role of parenting change?**

5. Read Deuteronomy 11:16-21. Make a list of everything we are asked to do with and for our kids. What are practical ways we can do these things in our culture today?
6. What are some other promises you claim from Scripture? Look them up and see if there is more there than you may have realized.

