



# ***PARENTING FOR LIFE***

LESSON 4

*The Parent's role as  
DISCIPLINARIAN*

# REVIEW

Parent's Priorities:

Lord, Spouse, Family, Others

Parent's Goal

faithful steward, actively bringing up

Parent's Challenges

Motivation, Focus, Balance

# THE PARENT'S ROLES

## 1. We're on a mission!

- Ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20)
- Faithful stewards (1 Cor 4:2)

*In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.*

- Reconcilers (2 Cor 5:18, Col 3:20)

*Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,*

*Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.*

## **A. THE PARENT AS A DISCIPLINARIAN**

*“And fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” – Ephesians 6:4*

Training Includes – Rules, guidelines, restrictions, rewards, correction, and structure

# **A. THE PARENT AS A DISCIPLINARIAN**

What makes discipline ineffective or effective?

- Unbiblical vs Biblical

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

a. Depends excessively on controlling the child.

Out of balance discipline may:

1. Provoke a child to rebel.
2. Prevent the development of inner convictions.

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

## b. Disciplines in uncontrolled anger (Prov. 14:17, 16:32)

- Being explosive means you'll be inconsistent.
- Angry over a separate issue and taking it out on them.
- Unresolved anger released on your children.
- Forgive and do not be bitter.

**“The Heart of Anger” - Lou Priolo**

# 25 WAYS PARENTS PROVOKE

1. Lack of marital harmony
2. Establishing and maintaining a child centered home
3. Modeling sinful anger
4. Habitually disciplining while angry
5. Scolding – angry tone/harsh tone
6. Being inconsistent with discipline
7. Having double standards
8. Being legalistic
9. Not admitting when wrong / Not asking for forgiveness
10. Constantly finding fault
11. Parents reversing God given roles
12. Not listening to your child's opinion or side of the story
13. Comparing them to others
14. Not making time to 'just talk'
15. Not Praising or encouraging your child
16. Failing to keep your promises
17. Chastening in front of others
18. Not allowing enough freedom
19. Allowing too much freedom
20. Mocking your child
21. Abusing them physically
22. Ridiculing or name calling
23. Unrealistic expectations
24. Practicing favoritism
25. Training with methods inconsistent with God's word



# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

- c. Discipline because the child is an inconvenience.
  - Selfish motivation
  - Only when bothered

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

d. Disciplines without a balance of encouragement.

*“...admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.” – 1*

Thessalonians 5:14

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

“Spare the rod and spoil the child – that is true. But beside the rod keep an apple to give him when he has done well.” – Martin Luther

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

e. Thinks discipline will hinder creativity and potential.

- a child left to himself will bring his mother shame

(Proverbs 29:15)

- Great athletes do not become great without discipline

(2 Timothy 2:5)

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

f. Thinks discipline will warp the child.

- The world's thought: it makes the child insecure.

- Without discipline, foolishness is left to reign in the child's heart (Proverbs 22:15).

- God's truth: it's your child's greatest security.

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

g. Neglects timely correction.

*“Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil.” –*

Ecclesiastes 8:11

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

Don't delay discipline by:

- Waiting until the child's habits have become ingrained
- Allowing a particular incident to continue without addressing it (1 Sam 3:13)

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

h. Withholds the use of the rod.

*“Do not hold back discipline from the child, although you beat him with the rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with the rod, and deliver his soul from Sheol.”*

(Proverbs 23:13-14)



# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

*“He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently.” - Proverbs 13:24*

*“The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother.” – Proverbs 29:15*

# 1. UNBIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

Discipline is unbiblical when:

1. It depends excessively on correction without balance of instruction.
2. It's done in anger or selfish motives.
3. It's done without a balance of praise.
4. It's delayed.
5. It completely ignores the rod.

## 2. BIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

a. It is loving.

i. Sets Beneficial Limits:

- Provide a good setting for learning
- Establish order in the home (1 Tim 3:4, Prov 31:10-31)
- Protect the child from things he cannot handle
- Prepare a child for the limits of life situations
- Reveal the need for teaching

## 2. BIBLICAL DISCIPLINE

a. It is loving.

i. Beneficial Limits:

- Expose his inability to keep the standard and his need for a Savior

No Standard = No Sin = No Need for a Savior

Low Standard = Pharisaism = No Need for a Savior

God's Standard = Sin Abounds = Need the Savior's Grace

# SUMMARY

- a. Unbiblical Discipline = provokes children to anger
- b. Biblical Discipline:
  - i. Reflects God's Character
  - ii. Lovingly provides beneficial limits
  - iii. Points a child to Christ
  - iv. For believing children = helps a child grow in Christlikeness



**QUESTIONS?**

**LESSON 4**

***THE PARENT'S ROLE AS  
DISCIPLINARIAN***