

RESET: Parenting - Main Idea: Children are not interruptions or idols. They are gifts from God, entrusted to parents to be discipled, disciplined, and deployed for His purposes.

The Two Ditches to Avoid

Ignoring kids - Children seen as interruptions. Left unformed.

Idolizing kids - Children become the center of the family. Parents serve the child rather than steward them.

The Gospel Road - Children are gifts from God, not burdens or gods.

1. Discipled: Parents are called to intentionally form their children in the ways of Jesus. Think the way a journeyman forms their apprentice.

Key Scriptures: Proverbs 22:6 / Deuteronomy 6:6–7

Core Truths: Discipleship is modeled more than taught / You cannot lead your children where you are unwilling to go / Parents are the primary disciplers not youth pastors. The church supplements the home.

Reminder: Before discipling your children, you must be a disciple of Jesus yourself.

2. Disciplined: Loving correction trains children toward wisdom and self control.

Key Scriptures: Proverbs 13:24 / Proverbs 29:17 / Hebrews 12:11

Core Truths: Discipline is training, not punishment / Lack of discipline is not kindness / Godly discipline is grace filled, clear, consistent, and restorative.

Reminder: Discipline is an overflow of discipleship. It corrects children back toward Christ.

3. Deployed: Children are raised to be released into God's purposes.

Key Scriptures: Psalm 127:3–5 / Ephesians 2:10

Core Truths: Children are arrows, not trophies / The goal is not dependence upon us, but rather faithfulness to God's calling on their life / Parents move from control to coaching as children mature and move out/on

Reminder: Faithful parenting does not guarantee outcomes, but it honors God with obedience.

Final Reset

Ignoring kids leaves them unformed. Idolizing kids leaves them fragile. The Gospel forms resilient disciples.

Children are a gift. Steward them well.

Devotion 1: Disciplined / Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:6–7 “These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children...”

Reflection: God’s design for discipling children starts before we ever speak to them. It starts in us. The command is not first to teach our children, but for God’s word to be on our hearts. Faith in the home was never meant to be outsourced or compartmentalized. It is meant to be lived out in ordinary moments. Around the table. In the car. In the routines of daily life. Children learn what following Jesus looks like by watching how we follow Him. Not perfectly, but honestly.

Challenge: This week, focus less on teaching your child something new and more on practicing your faith where they can see it. Let them see you pray. Let them see you read Scripture. Let them see you repent.

Devotion 2: Disciplined / Scripture: Hebrews 12:11 “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace...”

Reflection: Discipline is often misunderstood because it is uncomfortable. It requires energy, patience, and consistency, especially when we are tired. But Scripture reminds us that discipline is an act of love. God disciplines His children not to punish them, but to form them. In the same way, discipline in the home is meant to redirect hearts, not crush spirits. Loving boundaries provide children with security and wisdom they cannot yet develop on their own.

Challenge: Ask God to help you discipline from a place of love rather than frustration. Be clear. Be consistent. And always make a path back to restoration.

Devotion 3: Deployed / Scripture: Psalm 127:4 “Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one’s youth.”

Reflection: Arrows are shaped, sharpened, and aimed long before they are released. They are not meant to stay in the quiver forever. Parenting is a season of preparation, not possession. God entrusts children to us for a time, but they ultimately belong to Him. Our role is to point them toward Christ and then trust God with the direction their lives take. Letting go is hard, but it is also holy.

Challenge: Pray for your child’s future today. Ask God to prepare them for the good works He has already planned. Practice trusting God with outcomes you cannot control.