



Pastor Traian Sandor-Martin, DMin

**Proverbs 1:8-9** My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck.

Our culture often defines Love as **affirmation without correction.**

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### 1. Biblical love...the Father's love

#### – We love him, because he first loved us.

...is not soft sentiment—it is **strong, shaping, and structured.**

– Proverbs 1:1-7

– Proverbs 22:6

If we are to love well, we *must* understand how love is EXPRESSED.

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### 2. The Father's Love Provides Instruction that SHAPES Life

– 1 Samuel 2:12

– Proverbs 13:4

– Ephesians 6:4

Judge Samuel's lack of correction led to...

... spiritual corruption.

... moral collapse.

... eventual judgment on the family.

**Uncorrected behavior RARELY corrects itself—it often intensifies.**

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### 3. The Father's Love Sets GUARDRAILS Our for Life

– Hebrews 12:6

– 1 Kings 1:6

• Boundaries communicate: *"You matter enough for me to guide you."*

• Chaos produces anxiety; structure produces security

• Discipline is not rejection—it is **direction**

**Absence of boundaries is not freedom—it is NEGLECT.**

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### 4. We—our Love for your children, reflects the love we receive (or lack there of)

– 1 John 4:8

– 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

– Romans 5:8

God's love is ...

... **Secure** (He holds us)

... **Affirming** (we are His children)

... **Attentive** (He hears us)

... **Correcting** (He disciplines us for our good)

**We do not parent *for* love—we parent from love we have RECEIVED.**

**We move from TA DA to TO Do  
What does HE say that I am**

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**ADMIT**

**BELIEVE**

**CHOOSE**

**Reflection and Discussion**

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1. What does it mean that love is “shaping” rather than just “feeling”?
2. Where might you be avoiding necessary correction because it feels uncomfortable?
3. Which statement resonates most with you and why:
  - “Chaos produces anxiety; structure produces security.”
  - Discipline is not rejection—it is direction.”
4. Where do you need to establish clearer guardrails—in parenting, leadership, or your personal life?
5. In what ways have you personally experienced God’s love as **correcting**, not just comforting?
6. Why is it important that we “parent from love we have received” rather than “for love we are seeking”?
7. What is one specific way you can express **strong, shaping, structured love** this week?

UPCOMING EVENTS

**GLORIFY GOD**  
AMONG THE NATIONS



*The Prayer at Valley Forge*  
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**SEEKING HIM**  
IN ALL GENERATIONS **75<sup>TH</sup>**  
1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASB  
**THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026**

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

**Kiwanis Family Park Stage**  
1800 Wicker St,  
Sanford, NC 27330

**6:30pm-7:30pm**

Sponsored by  
**Central Carolina  
Pastors Network**

**NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG**

**MAY SERIES**  
**WHAT KIDS NEED MOST**



Raising the next generation has never been more challenging—or more important.

This series, *What Kids Need Most*, explores God's design for shaping our children's hearts, identity, and faith. Rooted in Deuteronomy 6:5–7, we will discover that what matters most isn't found in better strategies or stronger control—but in intentional, gospel-centered relationships.

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