



Introduction

- As Christians we do not have the right to dismiss the rod as a form of discipline. God commands it in his Word.

The Rationale for the Rod

- Jeremiah 17:9
- Proverbs 22:15
- The rod is for folly in the heart. Folly is not childishness.
- Proverbs 23:13-14
- The rod is not about forcing the child to obey, it is about rescuing the child from death.

The Function of the Rod

- The rod is meant to impart wisdom. Proverbs 29:15
- Our children default to thinking they are wise. Proverbs 3:7, Proverbs 12:15, Isaiah 5:21

What is the Rod?

- The rod is a parental exercise.
- The use of the rod is an act of faith.
- The rod is an act of faithfulness toward the children.
- The rod is a responsibility.
- The rod is a measured and controlled use of physical punishment.
- The rod is a rescue mission.

Distortions of the Rod

- The rod is not the right to unbridled temper.
- The rod is not venting frustration.
- The rod is not retribution.
- The rod is not punitive, it is restorative.

Common Objections to the Rod

There are many objections to using the rod.

1. I love my children too much to spank them. Proverbs 13:24
2. I'm afraid I will hurt him. Proverbs 23:13-14



3. I'm afraid it will make him rebellious and angry. Proverbs 29:17
4. I'm afraid it will teach them to hit to solve problems.
5. It doesn't work.
6. I'm afraid of being arrested for child abuse.

The Fruit of the Rod

- The rod trains a child to be under authority. Hebrews 12:5-6
- The rod yields a harvest of peace and righteousness. Hebrews 12:11
- The use of the rod is unpleasant and painful, but the result is children training in righteousness.