

## Immediate Family Relationships

### I. Remember the goal of this study

- A. Called to live in freedom and abundance
- B. That we might reflect the glory of God

### II. Two Questions

- A. Are you free?
- B. Are you living the abundant life?
- C. Examining - Five Key Areas of Our Lives - Asking these two questions
- D. Can know in every area God wants us Free, Filled, and Fruitful - 3 f's
  - 1. Health
  - 2. Immediate Family - as in who you live with
  - 3. Vocation - what you do
  - 4. Relationships - those outside your home
  - 5. Finances
- E. Have discussed
  - 1. Health
- F. In process of discussing Immediate Family - Within the Home
  - a) Self
  - b) Husband/Wife
  - c) Children
  - d) Parents
  - e) Siblings
  - f) Other
- G. Covered - Self, Husband/Wife

### III. Children

#### A. Children are a blessing from the Lord

**Psalm 127:3-5**, *“Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. <sup>4</sup> Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. <sup>5</sup> Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.”*

#### B. God's purpose for children

##### 1. Bring Him glory

- a) show His glory through them
- b) same as His purpose for us

**Genesis 18:16:19**, *Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. <sup>17</sup> The Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, <sup>18</sup> seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? <sup>19</sup> For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.”*

**Deuteronomy 4:8-10**, *“And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today? <sup>9</sup> Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children— <sup>10</sup> how on the day that you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, the Lord said to me, ‘Gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children so.’”*

**Deuteronomy 6:4-9**, *“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>5</sup> You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”*

**Deuteronomy 11:18-19**, *“You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>19</sup> You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”*

**Psalms 78:5-8**, *“He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, <sup>6</sup> that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, <sup>7</sup> so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; <sup>8</sup> and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.”*

**Psalms 90:16**, *“Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.”*

**Joel 1:3**, *“Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children to another generation.”*

C. Our job = Heritage

D. Our goals for our kids

1. Happy
2. Healthy
3. Successful
4. Good character
5. Good reputation
6. Etc.

E. Often not so worried about God's glory as much as their comfort/happiness

1. This is where we sometimes miss it.

F. Best way to ensure our Godly heritage is to start one.

G. Way more in the **being** not so much the doing

1. Don't focus 1st on forming kids

2. Focus on your own relationship/character

3. Many blessings spring from our own condition

H. God has made us promises regarding our kids

1. They have a God promise attached to a people responsibility

**Psalm 25:12-13**, *"Who is the man who fears the Lord? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose. <sup>13</sup> His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land."*

**Proverbs 22:6**, *"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."*

**Deuteronomy 12:28**, *"Be careful to obey all these words that I command you, that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the Lord your God."*

**Psalm 37:25**, *"I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread."*

**Psalm 37:26**, *"He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing."*

**Psalm 102:28**, *"The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you."*

**Psalm 103:17**, *"But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children"*

**Proverbs 14:26, “In the *fear of the Lord* one has strong confidence, and *his children will have a refuge.*”**

**Proverbs 20:7, “The *righteous who walks in his integrity— blessed are his children after him!*”**

**Proverbs 11:21, “Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished, but the *offspring of the righteous will be delivered.*”**

- I. Many of the promises are a result of our condition
  - 1. Fear the Lord
  - 2. Being His servants
  - 3. Being righteous
  
- J. Yes there is the element of doing as well
  - 1. Train
  - 2. Walk in integrity
  - 3. Obey
  
- K. But the doing always springs from the being
  
- L. It is so important to realize that in order to have a Godly heritage we have to sold out to God
  
- M. Our kids will believe who we are way more that what we say
  
- N. *Shepherding a Child’s Heart* p. xix
  
- O. All this being said, what does God’s Word say about raising kids?
  
- P. Ephesians 6:4 give us very simple and clear instructions on raising our kids

*“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”*

- 1. Bring them up in discipline
- 2. Bring them up in instruction of the Lord - train
- 3. Doing this in a way that doesn’t discourage and embitter them

## IV. Discipline

- A. Start with Discipline = w/o it no training
- B. So much propaganda in our culture
- C. What does God say

**Proverbs 13:24**, *“Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.”*

**Proverbs 29:15**, *“The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.”*

**Proverbs 19:18**, *“Discipline your son, for there is hope; do not set your heart on putting him to death.”*

**Proverbs 22:15**, *“Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.”*

**Proverbs 29:17**, *“Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart.”*

**Proverbs 23:13**, *“Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you strike him with a rod, he will not die.”*

**Proverbs 29:17**, *“Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart.”*

### D. Discipline - [dictionary.com](http://dictionary.com)

1. training to act in accordance with rules; drill:
2. activity, exercise, or a regimen that develops or improves a skill; training:
3. punishment inflicted by way of correction and training.

### E. Three main element of discipline

1. Establishing a set of rules, structure, belief system
2. Training in that - practice, exercising, instructing
3. Punishment for violation, infraction, transgression

- F. Discipline is not the equivalent of spanking
  - 1. Spanking has its place but it isn't the sum total of it.
  - 2. Shepherding a Child's Heart - p. 84 then p.153-156
- G. Need leadership of Holy Spirit - we are not smart enough
- H. Discipline and training go hand in hand
- I. If disciplining without training - disaster!