

C. SOW BY OUR EXAMPLE

- Do you thirst for Θ as the deer pants for the water?
- Or is your life sending your children a message of hypocrisy & spiritual indifference?
- Is your own commitment to Christ what you hope to see in your children?
- Is your obedience to Θ 's Word the same kind of obedience you long to see from your kids?

Tom Marshall

"People don't follow visions or dreams or schemes or ideas, they follow leaders."

J.C Ryle

"Instruction, advice and commands will profit little, unless they are backed up by the pattern of your own life. Your children will never believe you are in earnest and really wish them to obey you so long as your actions contradict your counsel."

- Are you setting a compelling godly example for them to follow, reflecting the priorities that God wants instilled in his children?

D. SOW BY OUR PRAYERS

J.C Ryle

"Without the blessing of the Lord, your best endeavours will do no good. He has the hearts of all men in his hands, and except he touch the hearts of your children by His Spirit, you weary yourself to no purpose. Water, therefore, the seed you sow on their minds with unceasing prayer. The Lord is far more willing to hear than we to pray; far more ready to give blessings than we to ask them; but he loves to be entreated for them. I set the matter of prayer as the topstone and seal of all you do. Parents if you love your child, you cannot name their names before the mercy-seat too often."

Charles Bridges

"Unbelief looks at the difficulty, faith regards the promise. It is faith that enlivens our work with perpetual cheerfulness; it commits every part of it to God in the hope that even mistakes shall be overruled for his glory and this relieves us from an oppressive anxiety often attached upon a deep sense of responsibility. The shortest way of peace shall be found in casting ourselves upon God for daily pardon of deficiencies and supplies of grace without looking too eagerly for present fruit."

- Avoiding two pitfalls: Fear & Laziness
- The biblical reality of sowing and reaping

Galatians 6:7

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

J.C Ryle

“He gives your child a mind that will receive impressions like moist clay. He gives them a disposition at the starting-point of life to believe what you tell them, and to take for granted what you advise them, and to trust your word rather than a stranger’s. He gives you, in short, a golden opportunity of doing them good. See that the opportunity be not neglected, and thrown away. Beware of that miserable delusion into which some have fallen, that parents can do nothing for their children, that you must leave them alone, wait for grace, and sit still. I know that you cannot convert your child. I know well that they who are born again are born, not of the will of man, but of God. But I know also that God expressly says, “Train up a child in the way he should go,” and that He never laid a command on a man which He would not give man grace to perform. And I know, too, that our duty is not to stand still and dispute, but to go forward and obey. It is just in the going forward that God will meet us.”

B. SOW BY OUR SPEECH

- Everyday Talk
- What do we talk about most in our houses, round the dinner table?
- What is the topic of conversation that most excites us? What do we emphasise the most?
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- What is the topic of conversation that most excites us? What do we emphasise the most?

- Parenting is not something we can neglect.
- Parents MUST be the primary influence on our children.
- “Quality Time” vs. “Quantity Time”
- A lesson from Old Testament history

Judges 2:7-13

And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the Lord had done for Israel. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110 years. And they buried him within the boundaries of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of the mountain of Gaash. And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel. And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth.

2. What hope is there for us as parents?

- God has the power to save our children

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

3. Every reason for parents to work.

John MacArthur

“Your children’s salvation is a matter to be settled between them and God. Nothing you can do will guarantee your kids salvation. To that end you should be praying to God and instructing your child – using all available means to impress the truths of the gospel perpetually on the child’s heart.”



BIBLICAL PARENTING

Session #2

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Our role as parents.

Deut 6:4-9

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 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. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Psalm 78:1-7

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Eph 6:1-4

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honour your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.