

The Christian Family at Home

Deuteronomy 4:9 “Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but **make them known to your sons and your grandsons.**”

Genesis 18:19 “For I have chosen him, so 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 upon Abraham what He has spoken about him.”

1 Timothy 3:4 “He must be one **who manages his own household well**, keeping his children under control with all dignity”

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Teach them to love God.

What if we don't have two parent household or an ideal situation? None of us do!

- Do the best you can. What can you do now? Obey the Scriptures, and pray asking God to help you.
- Galatians 6:9 Don't lose heart.
- God was/is the perfect parent, but still has children who rebel.

As you go, make disciples...

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Practical Pointers

- Get Bible out and read it together. Be systematic. Go through Bible or a book. When child lies, get Bible out and read it together. Do it from the beginning.
- Family fellowship every week (at least 2 X a week)

- Make sure you use doctrine, reproof, and correction.
- Teach children how to relate to others. Don't be self centered.
- Ask questions that encourage them to talk. Not - "How was your day?" "Fine." But "Tell me about one thing that happened today?"
- Don't expect to be the perfect parent. When you mess up, admit it and apologize.
- Have a unified front as parents. Don't undercut one another's authority.
- Eat at least one meal most days together.
- Share responsibilities; everyone helps out in the home.
- Avoid sleepovers, even if you know the other parents and home. Consider bringing your child home to sleep and bringing back in the morning for breakfast. Could have sleepover at your house and forget sleep.
- Stand firm on the battle over clothing. Many times you are the one buying the clothes.
- Mean what you say.
- Don't allow the family to be child ignored or child ruled; keep marriage as important; keep God 1st.
- Teach loyalty to family. Have the family unit strong.
- Don't degrade with our words or call names (stupid, idiot, etc.).
- Give them a good reputation to live up to.
- Help the child to be separate from the world but not punished for being a Christian. Have balance. Can be a Christian and still have fun! Can celebrate Christmas, etc., without lying to your child.
- Shepherd child's heart. Get to their heart, and let them get to yours.
- This is how we do it; we're God's people; this is how God's people do this.
- Show kindness and love.
- We are God's people and want to behave as He does.

Lamentations 3:22 The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. 23 *They* are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. *It is of* the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. KJV