

Teaching: Parental Guidance Training and Guidance Training Children for a Strong Spiritual Foundation Opening Scripture

Proverbs 19:20 (RSV)

"Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom for the future."

Introduction

One of the greatest responsibilities God has given parents is the training and guidance of their children. Children are not born with spiritual understanding; they must be taught, trained, encouraged, and equipped. Just as a soldier needs training before entering a battle, children need spiritual training before facing the challenges of life.

The world is constantly teaching values, attitudes, and behaviors. If parents do not intentionally provide godly training, other influences will gladly fill the void. God calls parents to actively cultivate spiritual growth in their children and establish a strong foundation that will help them stand firm throughout life.

1. Training Produces Wisdom for the Future

Proverbs 19:20

"Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom for the future."

Training is not simply about solving today's problems; it is about preparing for tomorrow's challenges.

Key Truths:

- Instruction today creates wisdom tomorrow.
- Children who receive godly training are better equipped for life's decisions.
- Spiritual guidance helps children recognize truth from deception.

Discussion Question:

What future challenges might our children face that require spiritual preparation today?

2. Spiritual Growth Must Be Intentional

Spiritual maturity does not happen automatically. Just as physical growth requires food and care, spiritual growth requires training and nourishment.

Essential Elements of Spiritual Growth:

- Reading God's Word
- Prayer
- Worship
- Obedience
- Fellowship
- Accountability

Without consistent spiritual investment, growth becomes weak and unstable. God desires that we prioritize spiritual development in our homes.

Scripture:

2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

3. Spiritual Training Protects Against Negative Influences

Children face many pressures:

- Peer pressure
- Wrong friendships
- Ungodly media influences
- False beliefs
- Temptations

Without spiritual tools and training, children become more vulnerable to these influences.

Spiritual training acts as protective armor.

Scripture:

Ephesians 6:11

"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Principle:

The stronger the spiritual foundation, the stronger the resistance against the enemy's attacks.

4. Resistance Requires Training

Nobody develops spiritual strength accidentally.

Athletes train.

Soldiers train.

Musicians practice.

Likewise, Christians must be trained spiritually.

Spiritual Training Includes:

- Learning God's Word
- Applying biblical principles
- Developing prayer habits
- Practicing obedience
- Exercising faith daily

Consistent **resistance** against the enemy develops spiritual maturity and endurance.

Scripture:

James 4:7

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

5. Good Seeds Produce Good Fruit

The training we provide today becomes the harvest we experience tomorrow.

Garden Illustration

A gardener plants seeds expecting a harvest.

Likewise:

- Godly instruction is a seed.
- Prayer is a seed.
- Encouragement is a seed.
- Biblical correction is a seed.
- Consistency is a seed.

Over time, these seeds produce character, wisdom, and spiritual strength.

Scripture:

Galatians 6:7

"Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

Application:

Parents should continually sow good seeds even when immediate results are not visible.

6. The Spiritual Tools Every Child Needs

Children need more than rules; they need tools.

Essential Spiritual Tools:**1. God's Word**

The foundation for truth and wisdom.

2. Application

Knowing Scripture is important, but applying it transforms lives.

3. Patience

Growth takes time.

4. Consistency

Faithfulness over time produces lasting results.

5. Accountability

Children need loving guidance and correction.

Scripture:**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

"All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

7. Nature Dislikes a Vacuum

One of the strongest principles in parenting is this:

If parents do not provide spiritual training, something else will.

The enemy is always seeking opportunities to influence minds and hearts.

When parents neglect spiritual instruction:

- Wrong influences gain ground.
- Confusion increases.
- Stress multiplies.
- Spiritual weakness develops.

But when parents actively train their children, they build protective walls around their hearts and minds.

Scripture:**Deuteronomy 6:6-7**

"And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children."

8. Proper Training Reduces Unnecessary Stress

Many family struggles can be avoided through consistent spiritual training.

Benefits of Spiritual Training:

- Better decision making
- Stronger character
- Greater peace
- Increased wisdom
- Healthier relationships
- Confidence in God

A strong spiritual foundation helps children navigate life's difficulties with stability and hope.

9. Parents Must Continue Learning

Parents cannot give away what they do not possess.

To effectively train children, parents must continue:

- Learning God's Word
- Growing spiritually
- Seeking wisdom
- Finding trustworthy teachers
- Applying biblical truth in daily life

Strong parents help build strong children.

Scripture:

Hosea 4:6

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

Conclusion

God has entrusted parents with the privilege and responsibility of training their children. Spiritual training is not optional, it is essential. Through God's Word, prayer, patience, consistency, and accountability, parents can help their children develop a strong spiritual foundation that will protect and guide them throughout life.

The enemy is always trying to train and influence the next generation. Therefore, let us be intentional in filling our homes with God's truth and providing the spiritual tools our children need to succeed.

Final Challenge

Ask yourself:

- Am I actively training my children spiritually?
- What seeds am I sowing into their lives?
- What spiritual tools am I providing?
- Am I growing spiritually so I can lead effectively?

Make the decision today to train yourself and your children for God's honor and glory.

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for entrusting us with the responsibility of raising and training children. Give us wisdom, patience, consistency, and understanding as we guide the next generation. Help us sow good seeds, teach Your Word faithfully, and provide the spiritual tools needed for a strong and lasting faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

[Click here.](#) Main resource.