

BIG Picture Parenting

15 Foundational Principles

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, Sept 16/17, 2017 Ray Davis

Part One: "Grace"

Just as God parents us as His Children, we are to in turn parent the next generation. Christianity is only one generation away from extinction; therefore there is not a more important God given responsibility. This series is more than a to-do-list. It is a big picture view of parenting that will radically change not only your perspective of how God parents us but how we are to impact the next generation. It is based on Paul David Tripp's book: Parenting (14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family).

1) Parenting is not about ownership, but stewardship.

Psalm 127:3

Identity: Where you look to find your sense of who you are.

Ownership: Parent for their identity from their children.

Stewardship: Parent from their identity in Christ.

Work: What you define as the work you have been called to do.

Ownership: Turn their child into something they want them to be.

Stewardship: Turn their child into what God wants them to be.

Success: What you define success to be.

Ownership: Responsible for the product.

Stewardship: Responsible for the process.

Reputation: What tells people who you are and what you are about.

Ownership: Unwittingly turn their children into their trophies.

Stewardship: Understand that parenting sinners will expose them to public misunderstanding and embarrassment somehow and someday.

2) Nothing is more important than being God's tool to form a human soul.

- We are value motivated human beings. Matt6:19-34
- Parenting is either a thing of high value to you, and it is demonstrated in your choices, words, and actions every day, or it's not.
- Parents too controlled by possessions, positions and the pleasures of life will have way too little time to invest in their children in the way God intended.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

3) God never calls you to a task without giving you what you need to do it. He never sends you without going with you.

- There is nothing more important to consistent, faithful, patient, loving and effective parenting than to understand what God has given you in the grace of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Yesterday's failures, today's burdens and tomorrow's uncertainties are no match for God's past, present and future grace.
- God's greatest and most wonderful gift to you as a parent is Himself!

Ephesians 3:20-21

4) Your children need God's law, but you cannot ask the law to do what only grace can accomplish.

- The law reflects the nature of God and reveals what is pleasing to Him and it can only restrain the will but only grace can transform the heart.
- Legalism: I obey therefore God accepts me. License: God accepts me therefore I don't have to obey. Grace: God accepts me in Christ therefore I want to obey.
- Grace frees us from the penalty, power and presence of sin.

Romans 8:1-4

5) Recognizing what you are unable to do is essential to good parenting.

- God has granted you the authority for the work of change, but has not granted you the power to make that change happen.
- When you think your job is to change your child your parenting will tend to be demanding, aggressive, threatening, and focused on rules and punishment.
- Fear, reward and shame can exercise temporary control over your child's behavior, but what needs to change in order for change to last and bear fruit is heart change through Christ.

2Corinthians 5:17 Romans 8:11

Growing Notes

- 1) Read the sermon introduction. What are your thoughts and feelings?
- 2) Take time to review and reflect on the five principles and Bible verses. Which one(s) are most convicting? Which one(s) are most comforting?
- 3) What is God speaking to you through this Bible study? What are some things you can do to make an impact in the next generation for Christ? Pray.