

BIG Picture Parenting

(15 Foundational Principles)

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, September 23/24, 2017 Ray Davis

Part Two: “Heart”

There is a major difference between a morally restrained will and a supernaturally transformed heart. Fear and pride can restrain the will but only grace can transform the heart. The key to life change is not the acts of the will but the loves of the heart. You are what you love. (Matt6:21)

6) If you are not resting as a parent in your identity in Christ, you will look for identity in your children.

- There are only two places for you to find your identity: Vertically from your Creator or horizontally from something in creation.
- Trying to get your identity from your child is very natural and hard to fight but it's not wise and a crushing burden on your children.
- How do you know? 1st Too much focus on success. 2nd Too much concern about reputation. 3rd Too great a desire for control. 4th Too much emphasis on doing rather than being. 5th Too much temptation to make it personal.

2Peter1:3-4

7) You must be committed as a parent to long-view parenting because change is a process and not an event.

- The Father's work of justification is an event, but His work of transformation is literally a life-long process. (Phil2:12-13)

1Tim1:16

- You must parent with a process mentality, as an unending conversation and with an unfinished project mindset.
- This is moment by moment pouring into your child affection, affirmation, accountability, and authority looking for incremental changes into becoming a responsible adult who loves God and others.

8) As a parent you're not dealing just with bad behavior, but a condition that causes bad behavior.

Luke 19:10 Rom3:23 (Ps51:5)

- Disobedience, foolish choices, sibling conflict, laziness, etc. are symptomatic of your child's lostness.

- Two big lies every lost child believes: 1st Autonomy—my life belongs to me and I can do with it whatever makes me happy. 2nd Self-sufficiency—I have everything I need inside myself to be what I need to be and to do what I need to do.
- Children need insight into their lostness, compassion about their lostness, and hope in Christ for their lostness.

9) One of the foundational heart issues in the life of every child is teaching and modeling the protective beauty of authority. Eph6:1-4

- Children come into the world as self-appointed little self-sovereigns.
- Authority is God-ordained (Family/Church/Government) for our protection, provision and prosperity. (Rom13:1; 1Sam15:23)
- Authority is all about serving and showing the love and truth of God. (Mark10:35-45)

10) The foolishness inside your children is more dangerous to them than the temptation outside of them. Only God's grace has the power to rescue fools.

- It's all about the heart. Pro4:23
- If the heart is the problem, then what is the problem with the heart? Pro22:15 Psalm 53:1
- How do you parent a fool? Glory, Wisdom, Story, Welcome. Pro9:10

Growing Notes

- 1) Read the sermon introduction. What are your thoughts and feelings? Why do you think life change is often superficial and short-lived?
- 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 this next week to begin to apply the truths from this study to your life? Pray.