

PARENTING:

RELATIONSHIPS:

- The primary human relationship is between husband and wife. (Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5-6)
- Children are a blessing from God and are to be raised to worship and honor God. (Genesis 29:31, 30:22; Psalm 127:3-5; Malachi 2:15)

ATTITUDE: (Psalm 128:1-4, 36:1)

- The essential attitude of a godly husband and father is the “fear of the Lord.”

ENVIRONMENT:

- A godly family environment is a place of respect and honor. (Deuteronomy 5:16; Proverbs 20:20; Ephesians 4:32; 1 Peter 2:17)
- A godly family environment is a place of safety and refuge. (Psalm 103:13; Proverbs 14:26; 1 Timothy 5:4)
- A godly family environment is a classroom for teaching. (Deuteronomy 6:6-9; Proverbs 6:20-23; 1 Timothy 3:4-5, 3:12)

WARNING:

- Fathers are warned not to provoke their children. (Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21)
- Provocation results in anger and discouragement. (Ephesians 6:4)
- Provocation results from angry reactions (Romans 12:19; James 1:19-20), permissiveness (Proverbs 29:15; 1 Kings 1:5-6), double standards (Matthew 7:1-5; Romans 2:1-3), conflict (Proverbs 11:29), and refusal to listen (Proverbs 18:2, 18:13, 18:17).
- The alternative to provoking is bringing up children in the teaching and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4; 2 Timothy 3:16)

BAD EXAMPLES: (1 Samuel 2:29, 3:13; 1 Kings 1:5-6)

- King David and Eli the priest were poor fathers.

GOOD EXAMPLES: (2 Kings 11:1-3, 12:1-2; Luke 1:5-7, 2:21-24, 2:39-42, 2:51-52)

- Jehoida, Zacharias, and Joseph were godly fathers.

HOMEWORK:

- **Memorize:** Proverbs 14:26

- Make a list of everything you appreciate about each of your children
 - Continue to add to this list
 - Communicate your appreciation regularly, specifically, and enthusiastically

- Is there any person in your family with whom you have difficulty communicating?
 - What can you do to remove barriers?
 - What can you do to improve communication?

- Are there things you have done to provoke your children?
 - If so, are you resolved to stop provoking?
 - If so, write them a letter asking for forgiveness

- In what areas do your children need godly guidance?
 - How can you use Scripture to provide that guidance?

- How does using Scripture make it easier to teach your children?

Memory Verse: Proverbs 14:26 (654) In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence, and His children will have a place of refuge.

Memory Hint: Carry the “memory pack” of all your verses with you so that you can learn and review your verses anywhere: while waiting in lines, waiting in class, or waiting at the dispensary.