



Disciplining your kids well

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Introduction

Deut 6:5 – 7:

⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Ephesians 6:1 – 4:

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²"Honor your father and mother"-- which is the first commandment with a promise-- ³that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." ⁴Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

What are you discipling your kids *in*?

- nominalism?
- Consumer Christianity?
- True discipleship?

Basic steps to take

1. Remember who is ultimately in charge and how he operates.

2. Be serious about God yourself.

What are some things that our children are going to observe in our lives if we are serious about God ourselves?

3. Be serious about *them and God*.

4. Seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness in your household, rather than worldly worries.

- 5. The means of grace need to be part of the daily routine of your family.**
- Bible

 - Prayer

 - Gathering with God's people

 - Spiritual conversation
- 6. Teach your children not just to go to church, but to *be the church*; and therefore, to gather and serve on the Lord's Day.**
- 7. Think long term and prioritise what will help them thrive spiritually over what will help them thrive educationally, socially, on the sporting field etc.**
- 8. Be willing to fight with your children over the things of God.**

Any tips for those fights from those who have 'been there and done that'?

9. Use the resource of the church family

Proverbs 27:17 – As Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another

Some online resources:

<https://kidswise.com.au/search?q=parent>

<https://growingfaith.com.au/articles/disciple-making-starts-at-home-but-how>

<https://youthworksmedia.net/products/kids-read>

<https://youthworksmedia.net/collections/parenting/products/kids-pray>

<https://www.thegoodbook.com.au/daily-bible-reading/family/>

Some final comments