

The Plan In Proverbs

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Introduction:

- A. We want to look in Proverbs to discern God's plan to build believer.
- B. I want to look at the training of children out of Proverbs but these principles are good for adults too.

- 1. The husband and wife have a responsibility to train their children.
- 2. This is a God given responsibility.

I. Proverbs chapter one says God's desire is to train children, as in chapter 22 also. (Proverbs 22:6)

- A. Training is the impartation of skill.
- B. Teaching is the impartation of knowledge.
 - 1. Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)
 - 2. God promises to keep children that are trained all their lives.
- C. Training is defined in many ways.
 - 1. To prepare the character of someone.
 - 2. To instruct by exercise.
 - 3. To prepare for a contest.
 - 4. Christian character is a skill that needs to be learned.
 - 5. We are all training our children whether consciously or unconsciously.

II. Five points I want to emphasize about training.

- A. Combined effort between husbands and wives. (Proverbs 23:20-23)
 - 1. God's commands lead as a lamp and a light in life.
 - 2. Children are to heed the instructions of their parents. (Proverbs 1:8; Ephesians 6)
 - 3. Husbands are primarily responsible for training children as heads of the house but husbands and wives must work together.
 - a. I was absent from the home 65% of the time last year.

b. Children need to obey both parents.

4. Are you parents working together to train up your children?

B. Planning is essential in training a child.

1. We are to give God our hearts to observe his ways. (Proverbs 23:26)

2. We need to have a heart relationship with God and with each other.

a. To have a person's heart is to have full confidence in the other person.

b. We can unload with the fear of being shot down.

c. We need to walk with wise men in order to become wise. (Proverbs 13:20)

d. What type of climate does your home have?

1. Are your children free to unload with you?

2. Are they afraid to let you see who they really are?

3. If struggling children could talk with their parents much trouble could be avoided.

C. Spiritual counsel is essential to training up children. (Proverbs 1:5)

1. Children need to heed the wise counsel of parents.

2. We are interested in training children from a practical viewpoint.

a. A couple has a 16 year old son that has been trained spiritually.

b. This boy is interested only in spiritual things and has no interests other than the spiritual.

c. This is unbalanced and unhealthy.

d. We need to train children on how to get along with others and how to communicate.

e. We need to train children on how to care for a home.

D. Curriculum has three aspects.

1. We need discernment in three areas: A wise man fears and departs from evil but the fool goes in and is punished. (Proverbs 14:16)

b. The use of the tongue needs discernment. (Proverbs 10:19; 11:13; 14:33; 15:2)

1. The tongue can be a deadly weapon.

2. Children need to understand that being slow to wrath is wise. (Proverbs 14:29)

c. Attitude needs discernment. (Proverbs 15:5)

1. When children obey for the wrong reasons we need to deal with their attitudes.

2. Attitude may be more important than outward obedience. (Proverbs 15:10)

d. Choice of companions requires discernment.

1. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom but fools reject wisdom and instruction, characterizing those who disobey God. (Proverbs 1:7)

2. Who our children run with will impact their lives for good or for evil.

3. My kids have some friends that disregard all wisdom and instruction.

4. I have made sure my kids get to meet friends at church.

5. I have also enrolled them in a swimming class where they can meet kids that respect their parents.

6. I have tried to guide their friendships by scheduling their time with quality kids.

7. In prayer every night I ask God to bring good kids into the lives of my children. (Proverbs 23:20 28:7)

2. Discipline, self-control is essential to training up your children. (Proverbs 25:28; 16:32; 19:15; 20:4)

a. A key in developing discipline is to be disciplined yourself.

b. Doug Sparks tells of how one of his children came running to him shouting and just out of control. He realized the kid had learned it from himself.

3. Diligence is essential.

a. The soul of sluggards lack but the soul of diligent will prosper. (Proverbs 13:4)

b. We are becoming a society that expects others to care for us, such as government. (Proverbs 10:4, 26; 11:27)

E. Correction is essential for training. (Hebrews 12:7)

1. Strokes clean the inner most part. (Proverbs 20:30)

2. Correction drives foolishness from children. (Proverbs 22:15)

3. Sparing the rod hates the child. (Proverbs 13:24)
4. The rod gives wisdom. (Proverbs 29:15)
5. Discipline while there is time. (Proverbs 19:18)
6. A corrected son will comfort his parents. (Proverbs 29:17)
8. Three reasons for spanking.
 - a. Disobedience.
 - b. Disrespect.
 - c. Dishonesty.
9. If we train our children correctly we will use the rod correctly.
 - a. I remember my parents using the rod on me.
 - b. I didn't like it then but now I respect them for using it on me.
 - c. Society today is in great rebellion because their parents did not use the rod on them as children.
10. Ten steps for correction.
 - a. Establish responsibility for disobedience by asking a child, "What did you do, not why."
 - b. Avoid embarrassment by correcting the child in private.
 1. Don't break the spirit.
 2. Break the will.
 - c. Communicate parental grief over the correction given.
 - d. Associate love with correction, not anger.
 - e. Establish God as the final authority and you as his vessel.
 - f. Use a neutral object for correction.
 1. Use a rod.
 2. Never use your hand.
 - g. Discipline until the will is broken.
 1. Don't overcorrect.

2. Ask God for the sensitivity to know when is enough.
 3. The least amount of correction possible is best.
 4. If correction is done correctly a little will suffice.
- h. Comfort the child after correction.
1. He needs the reassurance of a parent's love.
 2. Don't correct and then send the child to his room.
- i. See if any restitution needs to be made by the child.

11. There is a pattern to follow in the initial stages of correction.

- a. Instruct the child that disobedience and dishonesty and disrespect are wrong and will be corrected.
- b. There should be a warning before correction is administered.
- c. Use the rod.

II. Summary - The key to developing Christian character is the impartation of skill, not knowledge.