

The Role of A Parent

Parents, please read and complete the study, then bring it with you to your Family Counseling appointment. This study will encourage and challenge you in your parenting. As you pour through these pages and begin to discover what God is calling you to do as a parent, don't condemn yourself. Thank the Lord that He has revealed His truth to you, ask for forgiveness, and begin to be obedient in what He directs.

It is the duty of a parent to talk about God when they sit, walk, go to bed, and when they wake up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NLT) says, "And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up."

As a parent . . .

What can you do on a daily basis to fulfill this God-given duty?

What can you do on a weekly basis to spiritually invest in our family?

Parents are commanded to teach the Bible to their children. Deuteronomy 6:7 (NKJV) tells us, "You shall teach them diligently to your children."

As a parent . . .

What can you do on a daily basis to teach the Word?

What can you do on a weekly basis to teach the Word?

Jesus desires for us to bring our children to church so they can learn about Him. In Matthew 19:14 (NLT) Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children."

As a parent . . .

How often do you go to church? Would your kids say it's a priority?

How can you fulfill this verse and become united as a family?

Parents are commanded to not use profanity. Deuteronomy 5:11 (NLT) says, "You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God. The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name." In James 3:10 (NLT) the apostle tells us, "And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!" In addition, Paul writes in Ephesians 4:29 (NLT), "Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them."

Think about the words you use that need to be removed from your vocabulary. Ask the Lord to forgive you and help you speak honorably and respectfully to your kids, to be an example.

Parents are commanded to never commit adultery. Deuteronomy 5:18 (NKJV) says, "You shall not commit adultery."

As a parent . . .

What safety measures have you or can you established to protect your marriage?

- 1.
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Parents need to prepare ahead for their child's welfare and upkeep. In 2 Corinthians 12:14 (NASB), the apostle Paul says, "For children are not responsible to save up for *their* parents, but parents for *their* children."

As a parent . . .

Pray and ask the Lord to show you if there is any neglect on your part as a parent in meeting the needs of your kids. If the Lord shows you, act in obedience to resolve and fulfill your role.

What needs do you for see in the future for your kids and how can you prepare now to meet those needs?

God commands parents to discipline in love. Proverbs 13:24 (NLT) says, "Those who spare the rod of discipline hate their children. Those who love their children care enough to discipline them."

As a parent . . .

How do you discipline? Does it work? Explain.

As a parent are you consistent in carrying the discipline out?

Parents are to teach their children without getting angry and making them angry.

Colossians 3:21 (NLT) "Fathers, do not aggravate your children, or they will become discouraged." The Bible says to get rid of anger, because "An angry person starts fights; a hot-tempered person commits all kinds of sin" (Proverbs 29:22 NLT).

As a parent . . .

How can you set a Godly example for your kids in times of friction and conflict?

Do you need to ask forgiveness for being a poor example?

The punishment for not investing in your kids and bringing them up in the Lord's way is that they will bring you grief. In Proverbs 17:25 (NLT) we're told, "Foolish children bring grief to their father and bitterness to the one who gave them birth."

As a parent . . .

Are your kids bringing you grief? If so, examine the root of it with God's Word and take time to invest and instruct your kids.

Time For Change

Now that you've done the study and the Lord has lovingly revealed areas that need to change, what can you do? The following are actions steps you can follow that will lead to change in your family.

It is the duty of a parent to talk about God when they sit, walk, go to bed, and when they wake up.

Action Step

Pick up the "Virtue Guide" in the Sanctuary Lobby. It will help your family learn to live out different virtues by providing positive and negative examples, discussion questions, and more.

Visit CalvaryParenting.org for additional resources.

Parents are commanded to teach the Bible to their children.

Action Step

Purchase a Scripture reference guide. It will help you rightly divide God's Holy Word, give deeper context and insight into the Bible, and allow you to speak wisdom into everyday life issues. The *One Minute Bible For Starters* is a great tool for families with youth. This is a devotion you can read together as a family and use as a springboard for discussion.

Jesus desires for us to bring our children to church so they can learn about Him.

Action Step

Commit to a church service and mark your calendar. Regardless of how you feel or what events arise, go to church. Make the commitment and stick to it. This will be a huge testimony and example to your children.

For accountability and encouragement, share your commitment with Christian friends and have them sit with you at service. Purchase a note book to help you actively participate in the services. Take notes, journal prayers, and share with your family what the Lord revealed to you.

Parents are commanded to not use profanity.

Action Steps

Pray daily for self-control. Write an apology letter to your family, seek out an accountability partner, do an in-depth study on the kind of language that we as believers should be using, and memorize Scripture.

Parents are commanded to never commit adultery.

Action Steps

There are various things you can do to protect against adultery.

- Develop biblical boundaries in your marriage
- Safeguard your computer
- Attend married couples fellowship events
- Have a weekly date night
- Pray together daily
- Exercise and keep the body God has given you at it's best
- Do a biblical study on marriage

E-mail the Family Ministry for a great study to complete.

Parents need to prepare ahead for their child's welfare and upkeep.

Action Steps

Take time to pray and list future needs your child will have. Meet with a financial counselor from the church. Visit Crown.org and read articles pertaining to the needs you have.

God commands parents to discipline in love.

Action steps

As parents, make a united plan for your home. Make a list of guidelines for your family to follow. Make sure to add biblical references so your family understands you have developed them from God's Word. In addition, list what the consequences are if guidelines are broken. You can also establish a weekly or biweekly family night. We also encourage you to purchase Lisa Whelchel's book, *Creative Correction*.

Parents are to teach their children without getting angry and making them angry.

Action Steps

Pray for self-control, memorize the word, and complete studies on anger. Search online for Christian books on anger and self-control and listen to Bible studies. We encourage you to purchase Bill and Pam Farrel's *The 10 Best Decisions Every Parent Can Make*.

The punishment for not investing in your kids and bringing them up in the Lord's way is that they will bring you grief.

Action steps

Pray and ask Jesus for parenting direction, take a parenting class, attend Bible studies. It's important that you set intentional time out on your calendar to teach and train your children. Be consistent in the family guidelines and consequences established. Invest more one-on-one time and pray with your children over areas of concern, grief, and conflict.