

Using God's Word as Your Plumb Line

God gives commands and principles throughout His word

1. Look to God as father
 - a. How does God handle His children
 - b. How does He love them
 - c. How does He teach them
 - d. How does He provide for them (and what)
 - e. How does He respond to them
 - f. How does He discipline them
2. God holds us accountable for our obedience to His Word - not the results
3. Our homes - should reflect God's home
4. Our families should reflect God's families
 - a. The earthly should become a picture of the true - the heavenly
 - i. Jesus is the true bread (Jn 6:32-35)
 - ii. the true vine (John 15:1)
 - iii. the true High Priest (Heb 8:1-2)
 - b. God has set patterns for us
 - i. Heb 8:4-5 - tabernacle was a copy/pattern for us to follow
 - ii. Matt 6:9-10 - Lord's prayer is pattern for us to follow
 - iii. Eph 3:14-15 - family derives its name from God's family
 - c. God is the Father
 - i. Matt 3:16-17, John 10:25 - of Jesus
 - ii. John 1:12, Ro 8:15 - to all who receive Him
 - d. God is the maker of His heavenly city or home - Heb 11:10
5. Father's responsibility
 - a. Make a home for the family - responsible for quality of the home
 - b. John 14:2-3 - He has prepared it and brings in all who belong
 - c. Ro 14:17 - be a place of righteousness, peace and joy - that is what family should be to us
 - d. Rev 21:2, 27 - nothing unclean comes into the home - no one who practices abomination and lying - guard what we allow in our homes - even things that seem innocent can wreck havoc
 - e. Matt 7:11 - Father gives good things to his children
 - f. Ps 16:11 - make known the path of life, give the children fullness of joy and pleasures
 - g. Jer 31:3 - love them with an everlasting love, draw them with loving kindness
 - h. I John 4:10, 18-19 - there is no fear in love there is confidence and strength, our children will learn to love because we have loved them
 - i. Heb 12:7, 9 - there is discipline - it should bring respect and bring subjection and teach us how to be respectful and subject to God
 - j. Rom 8:31 - fathers will stand behind their children - encouraging them on - they can stand against anything, because they know they don't stand alone
 - k. Heb 13:5-6 - needs to be contentment - free from love of money - know that the father will never leave or forsake - what can the world do to them?
 - l. Dt 6:1-7:13

In Home	To Children
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fear the Lord (6:2) - Keep His commandments (6:2) - Love the Lord your God with heart, soul, might (6:5) - Let God's word be on your heart (6:6) - God's word bind on hands, foreheads, doorposts, gates (6:8-9) - Watch yourself that you don't forget the Lord (6:12) - Worship the Lord (6:13) - Pass on your Christian heritage (6:20-24) - Don't make covenants with the world and show the world no favor (7:2) - Tear down the idols that creep into your home (7:5) - Know God's faithfulness to keep His word (7:9) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teach them to love the Lord (6:5) - Teach God's commands to your children when you sit, walk, lie down, rise up (6:7) - Teach them that the Lord is the one who provides (6:10-12) - Teach them the fear and worship of the Lord (6:13) - Tell them about the things that God has done - in the Bible and in your lives (6:20-21) - Tell of His mighty deeds (6:22) - Show them how God has kept His word (6:23) - Tell them that God commands them to obey for their good and their survival (6:24) - Show them the blessings of carefully observing God's commands (6:25) - Don't intermarry with the world (7:3) - Show them God's faithfulness (7:9) - Show them God's love and blessing on those who love Him (7:13)

- m. Eph 6:1-4 - Fathers don't provoke your children to anger
- i. Provoke #3949 - to anger alongside - to become exasperated
 - ii. Bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord
 1. Discipline #3809 - chastening - all effectual instruction for the sinful children of men implies a chastening
 2. Instruction #3559 - to put into the mind - training by word of encouragement when it proves sufficient but also includes reproof and blame when required - goes along with 3809 because many times words are not enough
 3. Children
 - a. Obey your parents in the Lord - for it is right
 - b. Honor father and mother - commandment with promise - may be well with you and you would live long
- n. Hebrews 12:5-11
- i. don't regard lightly the discipline of the Lord (5)
 - ii. Don't faint when reproved by Him (5)
 - iii. Those He loves, He disciplines (6)
 - iv. He scourges (to flog, to whip) every son whom He receives (6)
 - v. Father disciplines His son (7)
 - vi. Discipline brings respect (9)
 - vii. Discipline is for our good so that we may share His holiness (10)

- viii. All discipline seems not joyful for a while (11)
- ix. Afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness (11)
- o. Col 3:21 - fathers don't exasperate your children so that they will not lose heart
 - i. Exasperate #2042 - to stimulate to anger - quarreling, wrangling, contention
 - ii. Many ways to exasperate - inconsistent discipline, unreasonable expectations

By bringing up children in the word of God and not the traditions of men, they are forced to be accountable to God instead of becoming angry and frustrated with you!

Children are a stewardship from God - they are His for us to care for while they or we are on earth

Prov 22:6 - train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old he will not depart from it

- Train - #2596

- To initiate, to teach, dedicate, consecrate - very early training for children

- Way - #1870

- Going, a walk, a journey, path, road, manner, course, way of life

- From 1869 - to string a bow by treading on it in bending, guide, tread down
Gifts, abilities, natural bent

Instructions on Discipline

Pr 19:18 - discipline your child while there is hope - don't desire his death

Pr 18:14 - don't break the spirit - you need to break the will

Pr 20:30 - stripes that wound scour away evil

Pr 22:15 - foolishness is bound in the heart of every child - the rod of discipline will remove it far from them

Pr 23:13-14 - don't hold back discipline from you child, to beat him he will not die, beat him with rod and deliver his soul from Sheol

Pr 29:15 - the rod and reproof give wisdom, but the child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother

Pr 29:17 - correct your son and he will give you comfort

Pr 13:24 - spare the rod - hate your son, he who loves will discipline

Pr 30:17 - punishment will come to those who mock and scorn parents

Instructions on Life

Dt 12:28-31 - not to follow after other gods

Dt 7:3-4, II Cor 6:14-18 - don't be unequally yoked together

Ps 1:1 - not to walk in the counsel of wicked, sinners, scoffers

Ps 101:7 - don't associate with those who are deceitful

Ps 141:4 - don't incline towards the evil men

Pr 3:13-26 - find wisdom and discretion

Pr 4:10-19 - be willing to be instructed

Pr 5 - stay away from the adulteresses - be faithful to your wife

Pr 6:1-3 - don't be surety, if snared by words, humble yourself and deliver yourself

Pr 6:4-11 - don't be lazy - it will bring poverty to you

Pr 12:26 - righteousness are a guide for his neighbors, wicked lead them astray
Pr 13:20 - walking with wise men - you will be wise, to walk with fools does harm
Pr 22:24-25 - don't associate with a hot head lest you become like him
Pr 22:26-27 - don't buy something you can't pay for
Pr 22:29 - be skilled
Pr 23:1-3 - don't have a great appetite
Pr 23:4-5 - don't weary yourself to pursue gain
Pr 23:6-8 - don't be selfish
Pr 23:9 - don't speak to fools
Pr 23:17 - don't envy sinners, but live in the fear of the Lord
Pr 23:22-23 - get wisdom, instruction, and understanding
Pr 23:29-35 - don't be drunk
Pr 24:17-18 - don't rejoice in your enemies troubles
Pr 24:27 - So your work at the proper time
Pr 28:7, 19 - to keep the law is a discerning son, need to be a diligent worker
I Cor 15:33 - bad company corrupts good morals
Eph 5:6-7, 11 - don't be partakers with those who deceive with empty words, don't participate in deeds of darkness
II Pet 2:7-8 - righteous soul is tormented daily by other's lawless deeds

Warnings of What Not to Do

Eli and his son - I Samuel

- His sons despised the offering of the Lord (2:17)
 - They were gluttonous
 - The stole
- Eli knew of their sins and didn't rebuke his sons (3:13)
- God was angry and brought a curse down on their household
 - The ark was taken
 - And Hophni and Phineus died
- Eli didn't correct the sin because of the sin in his own life
 - From the book the Patriarchs and Prophets
 - The children grow up without restraint, with traits of character that are a lifelong curse to them and are liable to be reproduced in others. There is no greater curse upon households than to allow the youth to have their own way. When parents regard every wish of their children and indulge them in what they know is not for their good, the children soon lose all respect for their parents, all regard for the authority of God or man, and are led captive at the will of Satan. The influence of an ill-regulated family is widespread and disastrous to all society. It accumulates in a tide of evil that affects families, communities, and governments.

Important Things to Establish in the Family

Building memories

Family development notebook

Prayer book for your children

Train children in the word of God early, ground them in a love for the Word

Family vacations

Traditions

Keep family scrapbooks

Look for good child-rearing books

Find a mentor - to talk things over with