

Parents: Who They Are According To GOD

Children are a blessing from our Lord. When the first marriage was created between husband and wife (Adam and Eve), it was the beginning of the procreation of mankind (humanity). Be fruitful and multiply was God's words to Adam and Eve. The first son born was Cain, and then his brother Abel came along. Brothers sharing the same mother and father, but completely different demeanors and personalities became quite evident when one brother had a fatal altercation with the other. Now, we have to wonder what their parents were doing or not doing for such a thing to occur. No, we cannot always watch our children 24-7, but we are accountable for the rearing of those little people that Jesus entrusted us with.

In raising children, it is an awesome responsibility placed on mothers and fathers by God. It's a task that we sometimes take for granted, but it is the most gratifying and wonderful assignment we have. God's word says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). This does not mean that they will not try to find out what life is all about once they get an opportunity; it lets us know that if the foundation of Christian living and holy behavior has been instilled in them based on the word of the Lord that they will return to what they know. Children watch what we do more than they listen to what we say. People in general are apt to believe what a Christian stands for if they live the life they portray.

It is not always the children that must be obedient; sometimes as adults and parents, we have to learn how to listen and really hear what our children are saying. And we also must abide by Jesus' word. They can say a great deal without opening their mouths. Action surely does speak louder than words. When a children act out, it's usually because of something that's going on within them and they do not know any other way to express how they really feel. They are looking for attention. In most cases they draw the unwanted, negative attention. It is what puts the spotlight on them.

We know the word of God says, "Honor your father and your mother: that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God gives you" (Exodus 20:12). But it also says, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath" (Ephesians 6:4). Also, the word lets us know that we can and must on certain occasions chastise them, or spare the rod and spoil the child (Proverbs 13:24). If something is spoiled, it is good for nothing. The same scenario applies to our children. We have to learn how to chastise them, because we love them, and not beat them up with negative words or physical attacks that allow them to think violence is the answer.

Most parents want to spoil their children because that's the way we show them how much we love them. Yes, being able to give our children what they want not only makes them feel good, but it makes us as parents feel good. There is nothing wrong with wanting to give your children the best life has to offer while you are still providing for them. Fortunately, we will not always be providing for them. At some point in life, they must be able to take care of themselves.

As long as we give them everything, they will never learn how to work for themselves, let alone be responsible for themselves or anyone else that comes into their lives.

There is a likelihood that a conscious child will become a responsible adult. However, there will always be the exception to the rule. But as parents we are to show love. First, we must nurture them as babies; second, watching them intently as toddlers; third, teach them while in pre-school and middle school; fourth, teach them and listen to them while in high school; and last, listen and give advice as needed and as led by the Holy Spirit while adults in college.

Will all these things make all children wonderful, loving, kind, obedient, and respectful children always? Absolutely not! But with the guidance, direction, advice, and being the best Godly example as fathers and as mothers you can be; it will most assuredly put things in the right perspective, allowing God to be glorified, and Him to place His blessings on you!

Respectfully submitted by: Evangelist Victoria E. Hodge