

## Parenting Practically Works

"Family Matters" Part 4

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*"Treat others as you want them to treat you."* Luke 6:31 (TLB)

### WHAT GOD SAYS TO CHILDREN

*"Children, do what your parents tell you. This is only right. 'Honor your father and mother' is the first commandment that has a promise attached to it, namely, 'so you will live well and have a long life.'"*

Ephesians 6:1-3 (MSG)

### WHAT GOD SAYS TO PARENTS

#### 1. Don't exasperate YOUR CHILDREN

*"Fathers, do not exasperate your children..."* Ephesians 6:4a (NIV)

##### What "exasperates" children?

- Unclear Boundaries
- Unpredictable Discipline
- Unbalanced Criticism
- Unreasonable Demands
- Unspoken Expectation
- Undeserved or Unresolved Anger

#### 2. Discipline YOUR CHILDREN

*"...but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."* Ephesians 6:4b (NAS)

*"God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."* Hebrews 12:10-11 (NIV)

#### 3. Nurture YOUR CHILDREN

##### Love is spelled LEAD

*"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."* John 1:12 (NIV)

##### Love is spelled PRAY

*"As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you."*  
1 Samuel 12:23 (NIV)

##### Love is spelled GROW

*"My little children, again I feel the pain of childbirth for you until you truly become like Christ."*  
Galatians 4:19 (NCV)

*"Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds.... Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."* Deuteronomy 11:18-21 (NIV)

#### 4. Show compassion to YOUR CHILDREN

*"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*  
Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

*“As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.”*  
Psalm 103:13 (NIV)

*“By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born...”* Hebrews 11:23 (NIV)

*“What matters is a faith that expresses itself through love.”* Galatians 5:6b (GW)