



***Principles  
For Godly  
Parenting***

**Bible Class Series**

**by Ray Reynolds**

# ***Principles For Godly Parenting***

<b>LESSON</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<i>Lesson One: How To Make God Real To Your Children</i> . . . .	3
Applicable Scriptures . . . . .	3
Eternal Principles . . . . .	3
Additional Resources . . . . .	4
<i>Lesson Two: How To Overcome The Fear Factor</i> . . . . .	5
Applicable Scriptures . . . . .	5
Eternal Principles . . . . .	5
Additional Resources . . . . .	6
<i>Lesson Three: How To Work Together</i> . . . . .	7
Applicable Scriptures . . . . .	7
Eternal Principles . . . . .	7
Additional Resources . . . . .	8
<i>Lesson Four: How To Establish Balanced Parenting</i> . . . . .	9
Applicable Scriptures . . . . .	9
Eternal Principles . . . . .	9
Additional Resources . . . . .	10

## ***Principles For Godly Parenting***

### *Lesson One: How To Make God Real To Your Children*

**Applicable Scriptures: Genesis 1-3; Leviticus 20:7-8, 26; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 16:7, 31:6; Psalm 23:6; 94:14; 121:1ff; Mark 12:28-31; Acts 7:49-50; Romans 12:1-2, 10:17; I Peter 5:7; Hebrews 11:1-3, 6**

#### Eternal Principles:

- I. Children need to know that God loves them.
  - A. How do you explain the love of God to a child?
  - B. How do you exemplify the love of God to a child?
- II. Children need to understand that God made everything.
  - A. How do you explain creation and the existence of God to a child?
  - B. What can you do to counteract the teaching of evolution?
- III. Children need to comprehend that God watches over us.
  - A. Why is it important to know that God is watching?
  - B. How can this concept reinforce your children's behavior?
- IV. Children need to realize that God will always be present.
  - A. How do you explain pain, suffering, and death to a child?
  - B. Can you teach this if you do not believe it? Explain.
- V. Children need to have good role models.
  - A. Why is your example so important to your children?
  - B. Can you choose the role models for your children? Explain.
- VI. Children need to imitate their parent's zeal for God.
  - A. Will your child have zeal if you do not? Why?
  - B. How can you acquire the fire and passion you need?

- VII. Children need to appreciate their parent's faith and build their own.
- A. Is your child's spiritual foundation strong? Is yours?
  - B. How often do you pray with your children?
  - C. How often do you study with your children?

Additional Resources:

*Extending Your Heritage*, by J. Otis Ledbetter and Randy Scott (Cook Communications, 2000).

"Growing a Praying Family," by Susan Sorensen (*Christian Parenting Today*, Summer 2003).

"Make God Real to Your Kids," by Karen Henley (*Christian Parenting Today*, May/June 1999).

*The Blessing*, Gary Smalley & John Trent (Pocket Books, 1986).

"The Secret to Faith-Filled Kids," by Kevin Young (*Christian Parenting Today*, Winter 2002).

*Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions*, by George Barna (Gospel Light, 1999).

*Building A Healthy Family*, by Bill Flatt (Christian Communications, 1993)

***Principles For Godly Parenting***  
*Lesson Two: How To Overcome The Fear Factor*

**Applicable Scriptures: I Samuel 2:12–34; 4:12–18; 17:37; Proverbs 5; 19:18–20; 22:6; Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 7:11; Luke 15:11–24; Ephesians 6:1–4; Colossians 3:20–21; I Thessalonians 5:17; James 1:5; I Peter 5:7**

Eternal Principles:

- I. Parents need to know that they do not parent alone.
  - A. Does it really take a village to raise a child? Explain.
  - B. How can grandparents, teachers, and friends reinforce values?
  - C. Why is important to know that God helps parents?
- II. Parents need to realize that God enables us to do what he requires.
  - A. Does God have any unrealistic expectations? Explain.
  - B. Why do people want to throw in the towel in their marriage and with their families?
- III. Parents need to pray without ceasing.
  - A. Why don't we pray more if we believe that God will bless us with strength?
  - B. How is there power in prayer?
- IV. Parents need to have age-appropriate expectations for their children.
  - A. How do you feel about unrealistic expectations?
  - B. What do your children think about unrealistic expectations?
  - C. Do expect your children to act like adults? Why?
- V. Parents need to communicate clear expectations and consequences.
  - A. What will happen if you do not communicate clearly?
  - B. What will happen if you are wishy washy?

- VI. Parents need to let children experience the natural consequences of their choices and behaviors.
- A. Why is it beneficial to let children learn on their own?
  - B. What are the dangers of letting children learn on their own?
- VII. Parents need to be realistic.
- A. Do you think that if rescue your children from consequences you will rescue their character?
  - B. How can parents be more real with their children?

Additional Resources:

*Bringing Up Boys*, by James Dobson (Tyndale, 2001).

*Christian Child Rearing and Personality Development*, by Paul D. Meier (Baker Books, 1977).

*Dare To Discipline*, by James Dobson (Tyndale, 1976).

Loving Discipline that Works, by Gary Chapman with Ron R. Lee (*Christian Parenting Today*, July/August 1999)

"Parenting Without Fear", by Sheila Wray Gregoire (*Christian Parenting Today*, July/August 2000).

*Parenting Isn't For Cowards*, by James Dobson (Tyndale, 1987).

*Real Teens*, by George Barna (Regal Books, 2001).

The Power of Consequences, by Suzanne Woods Fisher (*Christian Parenting Today*, January/February 2002)

*The Power of a Praying Parent*, by Stormie Omartain (Harvest House, 2005).

*The Strong Willed Child*, by James Dobson (Tyndale, 1978).

*Train Up A Child*, by Bill E. Smith (Helm Publishers, 1996).

## ***Principles For Godly Parenting***

### *Lesson Three: How To Work Together*

**Applicable Scriptures: Genesis 22:7–12; Deuteronomy 6:4–9; Esther 2:5–11; 4:1–17; Proverbs 22:6; Isaiah 66:13; John 13:1–17; 17:1ff; Ephesians 4:29, 32; 6:1–4; Philippians 2:1–7, 4:19; Colossians 3:13, 20–21; II Timothy 1:1–4**

#### Eternal Principles:

- I. Parents need to set similar goals.
  - A. Is it all right to have different perspectives? Explain.
  - B. How can it benefit the family to have firmly established goals (i.e. to raise godly, well-adjusted, well-learned children)?
  
- II. Parents need to recognize that there will be times of disagreement.
  - A. Why do we disagree on parenting methods?
  - B. Is it possible to compromise of responsibilities, discipline, chores, and accountability?
  
- III. Parents need to concentrate on good things not mistakes.
  - A. Will you make mistakes as a parent?
  - B. Do you know any perfect parents?
  - C. Why is it unfair to be critical to each other as parents?
  
- IV. Parents need to prepare for empty nest.
  - A. Since the nest will be empty some day, why is it important to treasure your marriage more than your children?
  - B. What can you do to solidify your relationship before you look across the table and wonder "Who is that over there?"?
  
- V. Parents need to spend quality time with their children.
  - A. How can spending time with our children build bonds?
  - B. How can spending time with our children form godly character?

- VI. Parents need to have mutual respect and devotion.
- A. How are these foundations to a healthy parent-child relationship?
  - B. What will happen if these two things are not present in our relationships?
- VII. Parents need to communicate with their children.
- A. How can our words cut down our children?
  - B. How can our speech be filled with grace?
- VIII. Parents need to serve each another.
- A. How can this strengthen our relationship with each other?
  - B. How can this strengthen our relationship with God?

Additional Resources:

"Connect with Your Kids," by Kathi Hunter (*Christian Parenting Today*, Fall 2003)

*Fantastic Families*, by Nick & Nancy Stinnett and Joe & Alice Beam (Howard Publishing, 1999).

*Grace Based Parenting*, by Tim Kimmel (Word Publishing, 2004).

*Ministering To Families*, by Royce Money (ACU Press, 1987).

"Mom vs. Dad," by Faith Tibbetts McDonald (*Christian Parenting Today*, July/August 2001)

*Raising Christian Children In A Secular World*, Cheryl Dickow (Pleasant Word, 2004)

*The Family*, by Jack & Judith Balswick (Baker Books, 1989).

*What The Bible Says About Parenting*, by John MacArthur (Word Publishing, 2000).



***Principles For Godly Parenting***  
*Lesson Four: How To Establish Balanced Parenting*

Applicable Scriptures: **Genesis 22:1–18; I Samuel 2:29; 3:12–13; 4:12–18; I Kings 3:5–12; Proverbs 16:1–9; 31:10–31; Matthew 6:33; Romans 12:1–8; 15:1–7; Colossians 3:12–21; I Timothy 6:6–11**

Eternal Principles:

- I. Parents need to pray for wisdom.
  - A. Why is it important to plan for the future of your family?
  - B. Does God have a plan for your family?
  - C. Does Satan have a plan for your family?
  
- II. Parents need to evaluate their priorities.
  - A. What is your #1, #2, and #3 priorities?
  - B. Would a review of your time reveal different priorities?
  - C. Why is it important to work at this with all our hearts?
  
- III. Parents need to find a balance between work and family.
  - A. How can this balance benefit everyone and bring glory to God?
  - B. How can an improper balance destroy your family?
  
- IV. Parents need to balance their needs and wants.
  - A. Why is it important to have financial flexibility?
  - B. How simple is it to pass on greed, materialism, and selfishness to our children?
  
- V. Parents need to love and obey God.
  - A. Why must your child see that as your top priority?
  - B. How will this rub off on your children?
  - C. What can you do to show this love and obedience to God?

- VI. Parents need to rely on God and not cultural expectations.
  - A. How can there be improper balance if focus on our culture?
  - B. Would it benefit you to gain the praise of the whole world and lose your own soul?
  - C. Would it benefit you to gain the praise of the whole world and lose the souls of your family?
  
- VII. Parents need to realize that God has a unique plan for each family.
  - A. Do you know your child's talents and interests?
  - B. Will you help or hinder your child's spiritual growth?
  
- VII. Parents need to know their place.
  - A. Why is it important for dad to be a dad?
  - B. Why is it important for mom to be a mom?

Additional Resources:

*Active Christian Parenting*, by Augsburg Fortress (Active Parenting, 1993).

"Balancing Act," by Jane A. G. Kise (*Christian Parenting Today*, July/August 2001).

*Boundaries*, by Henry Cloud & John Townsend (Zondervan, 1992).

*Build The Fort Today*, by Jim Kern (Jim Kern, 1990).

"Carla's Quest," by Jane Johnson Struck (*Christian Parenting Today*, Spring 2005).

"Just Say No!," by Ramona Cramer Tucker (*Christian Parenting Today*, September/October 2004).

*Time Out For The Family*, by Bill Maynard (Quality, 1989).