

How a Dad Disciplines His Children

(Proverbs 4:20-27)

1. **Begin With PREPARATION (20 “my words/sayings”):**
(Deut 6:6) *And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.*
2. **Get Their ATTENTION (20):**
My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings.
“Pay Attention to Me”
“Listen to Me”
3. **Work For RETENTION (21):**
Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart;
“Make Yourself Remember Them”
“Meditate on Them”
“Memorize Them”
4. **Provide MOTIVATION (22):**
For they [are] life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.
 - a. They are LIFE (3:1-2)
 - b. They are HEALTH (3:7-8)
 - c. They are VALUABLE (3:13-18)
5. **Aim For PREVENTION (23-27):**
 - a. HEART Care (23)
Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it [spring] the issues of life.
 - b. EAR Care (24)
Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you.
 - c. EYE Care (25)
Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you.
 - d. FEET Care (26-27)
Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established.
Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

Two A’s:

1. **Fathering Needs to Be ACTIVE (not passive)**
2. **Fathering Needs to Be ALWAYS (not sporadic)**
(Deut 6:7) *You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.*

Proverbs 3:1-26

- 1 My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands;
- 2 For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you.
- 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart,
- 4 [And] so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man.
- 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;
- 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.
- 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.
- 8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.
- 9 Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
- 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.
- 11 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction;
- 12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son [in whom] he delights.
- 13 Happy [is] the man [who] finds wisdom, And the man [who] gains understanding;
- 14 For her proceeds [are] better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold.
- 15 She [is] more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.
- 16 Length of days [is] in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor.
- 17 Her ways [are] ways of pleasantness, And all her paths [are] peace.
- 18 She [is] a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy [are all] who retain her.
- 19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens;
- 20 By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew.
- 21 My son, let them not depart from your eyes -- Keep sound wisdom and discretion;
- 22 So they will be life to your soul And grace to your neck.
- 23 Then you will walk safely in your way, And your foot will not stumble.
- 24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.
- 25 Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;
- 26 For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.