

5. Lay responsibilities upon your children and see they carry them out.

It is important to teach children values and skills that will equip and protect when growing up. These are the stuff to protect them in boredom and in crisis of life. The Bible 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 (KJV)

EG White highlights the importance of passing values and skills to children when she said: *“Children are naturally active, and if parents do not furnish them with employment, Satan will invent something to keep them busy in an evil work. Therefore train your children to useful work.”* 6MR pg 105.4

Example

6. Providing Healthy Choices to what children consume.

Parents' choice and selection of both physical food and media consumptions for their children must be guarded and protected in the first 10 to 12 years of their development. For they directly affected a child's holistic wellbeing –spiritually, mentally, socially and physically in life.



The lack of teaching and consistency in these areas are the major causes of miseries experienced by both the child and the parent. Therefore, wisdoms are needed in applying the **NEWSTART** principles early in life.



7. Teach children God's 10 Commandments.

The future of any civilized community or society hangs on ensuring that the importance of God's Holy law is 'passed on' from one generation to another.

Make sure that by the time your child is 12 years old he or she should not only know about it; but also apply its principles in their daily relationship with God and man. Moses urged the children of Israel to diligently teach to their children God's laws and statutes when they **talk, sit, walk, lay down,** and **wake up** in Deuteronomy 6: 7. Why? For it secures one's journey in this life and the life to come.

Example:

If a mother find out that John returns home from school with a nice new pen that does not belong to him, she should ask him who gave it to him. If child admits that he just took it, the mother must use the Bible and tell him that God forbids stealing. After that, John and her mother goes to the boy and return the stolen pen. When parents are careless about little petty stealing that their children commits, they potentially raise and nurture a future bank robber. It is important that we teach our children to take God' law as it is in small and big matters in life.

Finally an Advice to Parent:



A man or woman can only give what he or she has to his children; therefore, it is imperative that parents daily seek God for His guidance and wisdom in raising their children in a secular world.



RAISING GODLY CHILDREN



IN A SECULAR WORLD

Raising and disciplining children in today's world is a huge and demanding task. Should one wait until a child is 'old enough' say 10 years - it can be too late. Habits formed by then can be difficult to correct later on in life. It is best to start early.

There are many suggestions about the right ways to raise and discipline godly children, and sometimes it is hard to know what and which is best for a Christian family. We want to encourage you to follow God's word and His plan for raising a godly family and instilling a proper character in your children.

Before we provide you with some basic help on child discipline, it is important to know that every child responds to discipline in different ways. Thus, it is important that you spend quality time with each child to know their strengths and weaknesses.



Here are some of the basic ways to Discipline and Raise children in the Home.

1. Teach children to obey you as their parents.

Your child needs to learn to obey you as soon as possible. They also need to show a proper attitude in obedience as well. . Ephesians 6: 1, 2 says that children should obey and honor their parents.



When requesting them to obey it is important to consider their age, disposition, ability and the circumstance they are placed in.

Example:

Before you ask your son to water his mum's flowerbed and runs off to play, it is important to ask a few questions to yourself: Can he do it by himself? Does he know what to do? Will he complete it? Such questions help you to support him to accomplish his task.

2. Be Consistent in your Teaching and Expectation.

When applying certain expectations or rules make sure that they are carried out consistently. Desirable character formation and development only takes place when you are consistent with providing positive reinforcements. Be kind and polite but firm at all times. Encouragement and appreciation of their every small improvements lay the right foundation.



Example:

Set a routine for children to go to bed by 8:30 pm. To enforce this may be difficult at a time but as a loving parent be consistent in carrying it out. It may require

your patience, sacrifice, kindness but be firm to engrain the practice into your child's sleeping pattern.

Again, it is important to consider their age, disposition, ability to do it and the circumstances they are in.

3. Apply the Rod of Correction.

There are times when spanking may be needed, and when it does, it must be carried out appropriately with much love and tenderness—including prayer. In most cases, it should only be taken when all other measures of discipline failed; and when you are not angry or in a bad mood. It must be carried out in private, and while others are watching.

Note also that spanking can be carried out without prior warning in cases where consequence of 'act' committed affected others badly or threatening life. Read and study these Bible verses that will help you see what God says about physical discipline: Proverbs 13: 24; Proverbs 22: 15; Proverbs 23: 13, 14; Proverbs 29: 15; Hebrews 12: 11.

Example

If little Jane gets angry and throw stone at Rose, and the act is threatening life, spanking must be administered straight away Jane but with tender love and care.

4. Stay Calm and in Control at all time.

Remember that you are the authority and that it is God - given authority that you have.

Do not lose control or yell at your child in any circumstance. Be calm and confident



when administering discipline and 'punishment'. Colossians 3:21 says "Fathers, provoke not your children [to anger], lest they be discouraged." (KJV).

Example:

If your children know that you will call them 5 times to stop playing game and come home in the evening before you yell, they will not come until the 5th time when you yelled at them.

You need to take control and teach them that when you say something, they need to obey. Be consistent and start early as previously mentioned in point 2.

