

LIFE AS GOD INTENDED

Lesson Five

What God intends for us to know about **children**.

Three things God intends for us to know:

1. We should see children as God's gift

Psalm 127:3-5 gift, blessed, reward

Genesis 33:4 & 5 whom God has graciously given

Genesis 1:28 be fruitful and multiply (have children)

Proverbs 17:6 Grandchildren are a crown of old men

They are NOT a mistake, an interruption, a burden, a chore, a distraction, a nuisance! Kids will see what you think of them, so be careful.

2. God intends for us to know that children are a responsibility. Now that you have them, you are responsible for them. It isn't optional.

Three fold areas:

A. Responsible to teach them—not the school, not the church, not the culture

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 It is accomplished in two ways:

1. YOU must love God first

2. You then can teach your child what you KNOW (experientially as well as knowledge) because kids will learn from who you **are** more than what you **say**; Kids learn if God is the most important priority or if it's sports—making money—education—reputation. You teach by example

Deuteronomy 11:18 & 19 Repeat

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child

Deuteronomy 5:29 our hearts, protect our children

Deuteronomy 4:9 make them known

II Timothy 3:14 & 15 that from childhood you have known; teach them while they are young

Remember the goal of our teaching is not knowledge but wisdom.

Proverbs 20:7 Sons are blessed because of father's integrity

Proverbs 1:8 & 9 instruction and teaching

I Corinthians 8:1 knowledge makes arrogant

B. Responsible to discipline your children

Proverbs 29:17 correct you son

Proverbs 29:15 the rod and reproof

Proverbs 13: 24 He who LOVES disciplines (hate vs love)

Proverbs 22:15 foolishness is in the heart of a child

Proverbs 23:13 & 14 do not hold back discipline

Ephesians 6:1-4 children are to obey fathers don't provoke your children to anger

Colossians 3:20 & 21 don't exasperate (irritate, made to feel futile) by not explaining, helping, encouraging; cause them to lose heart

Discipline is made up of two things: Love Always-Disciplining consistently (not anger, not frustration)

The goal of discipline is not conformity but maturity.

C. Responsibility to provide for them

I Timothy 5:8 If anyone does not provide for his own; not just food & clothes, but also emotionally, spiritually

3. God Intends for there to be results

Proverbs 13:1 a wise son listens to his parents

Proverbs 15:20 a wise son makes his father glad

Proverbs 31:28 children bless their mother

Proverbs 20:11 it is important how children behave—it matters