

The Blessing of Children

Psalms 127:3, 5 [Message Bible] *“Don’t you see that children are God’s best gift? The fruit of the womb are His generous legacy? ... Oh, how blessed are you parents.”*

As parents we need to constantly understand that we will never receive a more valuable and lasting blessing than our children. Grandparents who are still a major part of the children and grandchildren’s lives will affirm this fact.

But with the blessing comes responsibility which is really a privilege.

God is the giver of life which includes our children, so we are really only stewards of what belongs to the Creator God.

Deuteronomy 11:19 [NIV] *“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.”*

“Teach them [God’s Laws] to your children.”

The training should include a major contribution from the father.

Proverbs 17:6 [Amplified Bible] *“Children’s children are the crown of old men and the glory of children is their fathers.”*

The quality of a child’s life is tied in with the example of their father.

Proverbs 22:6 [Message Bible] *“Point your kids in the right direction, when they’re old they won’t be lost.”*

Not only are we to teach our children, we can also learn from them.

Matthew 18:1-6 [NIV] *“At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. “And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.”*

The attitude of total trust and teachability.

The responsibility for teaching children and being a right example for them to follow extends beyond the direct family to all Christians.

Mark 9:36-37 [NIV] *“He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.”*

1 Corinthians 7:4, 12-14 [NIV] *“The wife’s body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband’s body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife.” ... “To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.”*

“*Sanctified*” means to be separated to God “*little saints*” extra special in God’s eyes. This is a great blessing we can pass on to our children if we are “*believers*” those who have put total trust in their Creator God.

Mark 10:13-16 [NIV] *“People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.”*

We are commanded not to hinder little children from coming to Jesus, for that will be the greatest blessing we can ever give them.

[Prayer for a blessing from God]