

## **“Parents, Teach Your Children!”**

*Ephesians 6:4, part 3*

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*“And fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and **instruction** [nouthesia] of the Lord” (NAS)*

1. Parents are the primary teachers of their children.  
*“fathers...”*
2. Fathers are accountable to God as the leaders over their children.  
*“fathers...bring them up”*
3. Parents are to be balanced in raising their children.  
*“discipline and instruction”*
4. Parents are to teach their children.

### **A. Deliberately and systematically—it takes time, energy and perseverance**

*“bring them up” = from the verb *ektrepho**

- \* The verb is active voice, which means ‘you’ do it in a hands-on manner

### **B. Continuously—life is the classroom**

- \* The verb is present tense = it is an ongoing, continuous action
- \* Deuteronomy 6:4-9

### **C. From childhood—it is a long-term venture... a marathon, not a sprint**

- \* The meaning of the verb refers to raising one up from infancy...i.e., long-term

*“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6)*

- \* Train with the big picture and end in mind; be patient; allow God time to work and effect change in your children

*“from childhood you have known the holy Scriptures” (2 Timothy 3:15)*

### **D. Verbally, addressing the mind—teach them how to think**

- \* This is what *nouthesia* means; *nous*/mind + *tithemi*/to put → “to place into the mind”
- \* This word is used with many nuances: “teach, counsel, admonish, rebuke, exhort, instruct, encourage”

5. Parents are to teach their children “in the Lord”

**A. This is moral and spiritual training**

*“the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge” (Proverbs 1:7)*

**B. Teach them to trust and submit to the Bible**

*“How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By keeping it according to Thy Word” (Psalm 119:9)*

**C. Teach them that God is their Creator and Judge**

*“But beyond this, my son, be warned...the conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:12-14)*

**D. Teach them that Jesus is Lord and Savior**

*“at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:10-11)*

**E. Teach them they need a Savior**

*“do not hinder the children from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14)*

*“all have sinned” (Romans 3:23)*

**F. Teach them the gospel**

*“the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23)*

*1 Corinthians 15:1-3; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9-10*

**G. Teach them how to pray**

*“Lord, teach us to pray...” (Luke 11:1)*

*“Pray then in this way...” (Matthew 6:9)*

**H. Teach them the book of Proverbs**

*“The Proverbs of Solomon...to give prudence to the naïve, to the youth knowledge and discretion” (Proverbs 1:1, 4)*