

### Biblical Tips for Godly Parenting:

- ❖ Children left to themselves will go in the wrong direction (Proverbs 29:15).
- ❖ If you allow children to go their own way, they will likely do so their entire life.
  - Proverbs 22:6 is advice, not a promise
  - Even good parents can have bad children
- ❖ Never discipline a child in uncontrolled anger, because wrath does not produce righteousness (James 1:19-20)
- ❖ Discipline with the goal of raising a child who is wise.
- ❖ Discipline if for changing behavior, not punishment. The goal is to develop godly habits.

- **What question do you have about these biblical tips?**
- **What other tips or themes from the Bible can help us discipline children in a godly way?**

### Practical Tips for Godly Parenting:

- ❖ Never discipline in public. Kids will focus on the people watching, not the issue being corrected.
- ❖ Discipline children because they did wrong, not because they made you angry or embarrassed. Be sure to hug and pray afterwards.
- ❖ During and after discipline, be sure to explain what was wrong according to God's rules.

- **What questions do you have about these practical tips?**
- **What other tips or ideas can help us discipline children in a godly way?**
- **How was what you learned helped you understand yourself better?**
- **What do you remember most fondly about your father growing up?**
- **Looking back, in what areas did your father struggle as a parent?**

**Hebrews 12:5-6** *And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."*

- **How should the age of your children influence the decisions we make about discipline?**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*

**Proverbs 12:1** *Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.*

- **What is your response to these verses?**
- **How does our culture teach parents to discipline their children?**

**Proverbs 15:1-2** *A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly.*

**Joshua 4:21-24** *And he said to the people of Israel, "When your children ask their fathers in times to come, 'What do these stones mean?' then you shall let your children know, 'Israel passed over this Jordan on dry ground.' For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you passed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we passed over, so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever."*

**Joel 1:2-3** *Hear this, you elders; give ear, all inhabitants of the land! Has such a thing happened in your days, or in the days of your fathers? Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children to another generation.*

- **When have you been successful in at teaching your children about God?**

- **What are some of the best things God has done for your family?**

**Colossians 3:16** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

**Hebrews 10:24** *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,*

- **How does your family determine house rules?**
- **How can you make sure your family's rules are based on God's Word?**

### --- Homework ---

1. Read **Ephesians 4:29** then answer the following questions:
  - a. What three things should we consider before speaking?
  - b. How can this help you discipline your children?
  - c. How can you apply this verse to your life?
2. Look at **Ephesians 6:1-4** and answer the following questions:
  - a. What are the truths expressed in these verses?
  - b. What are the challenges and commands expressed in these verses?
  - c. How do these verses connect with Ephesians 4:29?

## Malachi Dads The Heart of a Father

### Lesson 9 Questions

#### *“Fathering – Part 2”*

#### Memory Verse

*Train up a child in the way he should go;  
even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

(Proverbs 22:6)

- **What does our culture teach us about the relationship between fathers and their children?**

**Proverbs 17:6** *Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.*

**Hebrews 12:5b-9** *... “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?*

- **Where have you seen godly discipline done well?**

**Proverbs 22:6** *Train up a child in the way he should go;  
even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

- **What's your first reaction to this verse? Why?**