Raising children requires **biblical** parenting.

KIDS: **Ephesians 6:1–3**

1. **OBEYING is _____. Vs 1-2**
2. **Obeying is _____for you. Vs 3; Exodus 20:12b**
3. **Obedience _____God! Colossians 3:20**

PARENTS: You must teach your children. Ephesians 6:4

Kids are a great privilege in life! **Psalm 127:3-5**

There are NO _____parents.

BUT if you will determine to be a _____parent you will be MOST

_____ **Proverbs 22:6**; **3 John 1:4**

Nurture – "education or training"
Admonition – "to call attention to" = it is the mild rebuke and warning.

1. **In _____Word. (with your Bible) Deuteronomy 6:6-7**

   Let the teaching times come naturally.

   KEY: Teaching your child requires _____.

   KEY: Rules without _____will always lead to _____!

   KEY: Don't try to institutionalize your home.

   God Himself models success in training up His children.
   KEY: Consistently build them up in the Word over time. **Isaiah 28:9-10**

2. **With _____Words.**
   This requires investment and care.
   The danger - *"ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath"*

   KEY: Kids need _____! **1 Corinthians 4:15**
   PROBLEM: dads that only command. **Proverbs 18:14; Colossians 3:21**

   Don't set the bar so high that your children cannot _____.

   Be _____! Be _____in the lives of your kids.

You must be there to give them an environment that helps them to grow. Real relationships take time.

3. **Through discipline.** *(OK, let's get old school. The bible way!)*

   You must TEACH your children to honor and obey. How? **Proverbs 22:15**; **3:12**

   Proverbs 13:24 Betimes = _____.
   Training and discipline must start at an early age.

   The right approach. **Proverbs 23:13-14**

   Don't let his crying stop you. **Proverbs 19:18**

   It is the path to blessing. **Proverbs 29:17** contrast **Proverbs 29:15**

   Again, consider God as the great example of a parent. **Hebrews 12:6-11**

The Rules of the Rod

1. Set reasonable BUT FIRM limitations.
   No limitations on your child implies you place no value on your kid / it implies that you've rejected him. So give reasonable restrictions.

2. Make sure you are *"up front"* with your kids.
   Proverbs 13:24 betimes = early.
   Train first / discipline last.
   Never discipline for things your child doesn't know or understand yet.

3. Don't set the bar so high that they cannot reach it.

4. Never hit your kids. Never discipline in anger.
   Get a rod. **Proverbs 23:13-14**
   Never use your hand on your child.

5. After discipline, you are not done until there is restoration.

6. Never discipline in public. It's not practical. It's not wise, and it's not respectful to your child.
   Don't embarrass them – it's just between you and the child. **Matthew 18:15**

7a. Never scream at your kids. You should be in control of your home. The rod is magic.

7b. Never threaten. That just teaches them to delay obedience.

8. Don't discipline your children over petty things – talk to them about it.
   Save the rod for dishonesty, disobedience or disrespect.

The following was a short article that pastor Sam Miles wrote for a newsletter for KCBT in 2003.

Train up your child: The promise!

When my wife calls and says "*Let me tell you what Sammy did…"* This has been my cue to catch my breath. It's coming. Something I DO NOT want to hear.

When we had our first child, Sophia, we developed a sense of confidence and even smugness in our parental abilities. We would see other parents struggling to control their child, some children were even up into their teen years! We would always try to "encourage" them if we had occasion, *"Just apply a biblical model of parenting, and you will see God work, and watch the child develop submission and character in their life!"*

No compassion, no clue, just a simple smugness that we had the answers.

But then God gave us Sammy… and boy! Have we have begun to learn. We aren't such great parents as we thought. What worked so easily with Sophia didn't even phase our son. Training that took so wonderfully quick with our oldest child seemed to have all the effect of arrows against the armor of a battleship with our son.
This kid was wired completely different!

There has been much soul and bible searching, many tears have been shed as we have prayed and struggled to train up our son.

God has brought us to a point of desperate dependance and faith in His Word where our son is concerned.
In that, can I just encourage you?
Here is the is the conclusion I've come to. **God's Word is true**.
Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

I can have faith in that. *Not because it works so easily in the practical reality of parenting*, **but because God told me that if I do it, my son will not depart from it**.

So, Cheryl and I keep training, we keep loving, we keep encouraging our son with the goal of seeing him become a mighty man of God, submitted to his Lord.

Working in college ministry, I watch kids come up from high school every year – some of them jump right in and begin to serve the Lord as an adult. Others struggle.

But I've seen it too many times to believe anything but what God has said. Parents who invest in their kids in order to train them up to follow the Lord can COUNT on the fact that their children will live for the Lord as adults.

Every kid must go through a reckoning process as they reach adulthood. As a child, most *"good Christian kids"* are really just believing in the God of their parents.
As an adult, they must come to the point of decision that brings them to serve Christ as THEIR Lord. They come to realize that their love, obedience and service to the Lord are not to just please mom and dad, but God Himself.

Parents, if you will train them in the way they should go - they will not depart. Don't give up! Don't despair! You have God working it all for good in your life! He will honor His promises to you.

We are just starting out with our young son, but you know what is amazing?
We are slowly but surely seeing the will of our son come under submission all the while his spirit is strengthened. Before our very eyes, we are watching our little holy terror turning into a sweet little boy.

He will probably prove me wrong tomorrow. That's ok, because I know that God is doing a work as He honors His Word in our lives.

I'm a parent with RESOURCES! I have the promise of God over how my son will turn out.
You can too.