

## Biblical Child-Rearing—part 7: Discipline of Older Children

1. Foundations  
2. Husband's Responsibility  
3. Setting the Right Standards

4. Practical Procedure of Disciplining  
5. Doctrinal Instruction of Children  
6. Evangelizing Your Children

7. Discipline of Older Children

### Foundations

1. Discipline at this stage is to be primarily *formative* (as with us! Heb. 12).
  - restrictions are being progressively lifted
  - If obedience is not in fact, it will do no good to "clamp down" at this stage.
2. Bonding is to be primarily between child and parents, not between child and peers.
  - note this ongoing emphasis from Proverbs
  - the parent has the teenage son or daughter's ear.
  - They talk and receive instruction about the great issues of life and development facing them.
  - Indeed, one of the dangers warned against is that of forming primary bonds with peers.
  - This is the primary stage during which friendship develops with parents. (cf. shared values)

What does this look like?

### Formative Discipline How are we forming the character of our children?

1. According to the Disciplines of Life

#### (1) Spiritual Disciplines

- reading, meditating in Scripture
- prayer
- listening to the Word preached and taught (active listening)
- journaling

#### (2) Bodily Disciplines

- appetites, e.g., food
- proper rest, early to rise

#### (3) Disciplines of the Mind

- discipline in study
- encourage reading, discussion, debate
- restricted TV, use of phone (mindless "chatter")
- read together

2. According to their calling in life

#### (1) Work Gen. 2; Proverbs

- meaningful contribution to the functioning of the home
- responsibility with earnings

## (2) Cultivation of Gifts

- they are called by God to be students
- learning the skills that pertain to adulthood
- their study may certainly be of trades.

## (3) Servanthood

- must learn to serve. i.e., to not expect to be served
- must learn to think in terms of service to others —the home is the first "school"  
something is wrong if children are in their teens and Mom and Dad are still doing all the work in the home!
- e.g., all meal clean-up, some meal prep  
do own laundry  
keeping a clean and ordered room  
picking up without being asked, what younger ones sometimes leave out (This is what adults do)

