

Why train your children?

Kids you may wonder: Why do my parents do what they do?

Parents you may wonder: Why do I put out so much effort raising my kids?

In short, you want your kids to do well in life.

There's a blog at THE INTENTIONAL MOM.COM...

How NOT to raise a spoiled brat. --- Might be worth a read.

There's a book... Your kid's a brat and it's all your fault.

I like the subtitle: ***Nip the Attitude in the Bud – from toddler to tween.***

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

It's a lot of work training kids:

- This is **NOT just** teaching them the rules.
- This isn't just disciplining them when they break the rules.

No, this is training. You teach them **right and wrong**. You practice obeying the rules. You talk about the rules and why we have these rules. You praise and reward your children for **GOOD CHARACTER**. And yes, you discipline your kids when they **disobey**.

Training is hard work...not just for the kid, but also for the parent.

Psalm 127 says

³ Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

Children are a gift from God, and they are **meant** to a blessing to their parents.

But we all know.. Children can be a curse.

- They can steal your joy.
- Make you worry.
- Keep you up at night.
- And basically ruin your life.

Proverbs 17:25

A foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him.

- The **foolish CHILD** makes daddy sad.
- And mommy bitter and angry.

Yes, we **want** our kids to do well in life, but we also don't want them to ruin our lives.

We want them to be THE **blessing** THAT **God intended** them to be... a blessing to their parents, a blessing to their brothers and sisters, a blessing to church and a blessing to the world.

That's why it's so critical that we train them, that we **AIM** them in the right direction.

Psalm 127:4

⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.

You pull out an arrow. You aim it at the target and you shoot.

Kids, we want you to hit the target in life.

That's **why** we spend so much **effort** teaching, training and disciplining you.