


GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER



**“Keep your heart with all
diligence for out of it spring
the issues of life.”**

Proverbs 4:23

Ladies' Bible Retreat

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Getting to the heart of the matter means
looking past the outward behavior and
focusing on the attitude of the heart
that is motivating the behavior
so that we can help our children see their need for the Lord
for salvation and the Christian Life.

Every woman has the opportunity to be a godly influence in the life
of a child and "shepherd a child's heart."

2 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for
doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in
righteousness,

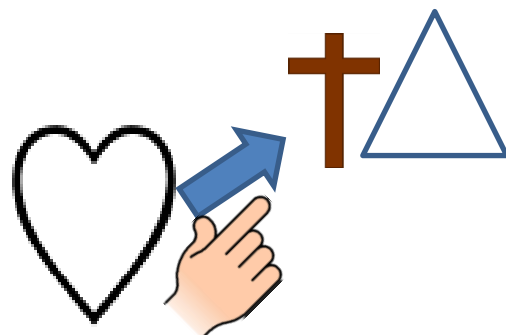
kids fighting over a toy.....

Ephesians 4:32 New King James Version (NKJV)

³² And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
even as God in Christ forgave you.

Our hearts are prone to sin

but Christ died for that sin



Trust in Christ to be saved from sin's penalty and sin's power

The goal of our correction is **restoration**.

Restoration means coming around to seeing the way God thinks or
agreeing with God. The goal is to return to fellowship and a
relationship of closeness.



Proverbs 4:23

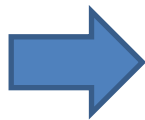
²³ Keep your heart with all diligence,
For out of it *spring* the issues of life.

All behavior is linked to attitudes of the heart

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)

¹² For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Ungodly attitudes of heart lead to ungodly behaviors



self-righteousness, shifting blame, making excuses, covers sin, hypocrisy, stubbornness, self-will, bragging, disobedience, scoffer, scorner, defiance, arguing, contention, vanity, self-absorbed, judging others, complaining, ingratitude, intolerant of being corrected boastful, seeks attention, seeks recognition, self-serving, self-deceived, shows off, cruel to others, ridicules others, tears others down, critical, selfish

Common parenting approaches

1. punitive
2. emotional appeal
3. bribery
4. behavior modification
5. I didn't turn out so bad

For *the LORD does not see as man sees;*^[a] for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7b

Dangers of unbiblical parenting approaches...

1. Focuses on the end goal without addressing the _____ behind the behavior.
2. Trains the heart to respond to the wrong _____.

What do you want for your children?

We were made by _____, for _____, to bring _____ to God and enjoy _____.

We are shepherding these children on God's behalf.

Teach them to be under _____.

Ephesians 6:1-3

Children and Parents

6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:³ "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."^[a]

Proverbs 22:6

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should go,
And when he is old he will not depart from it.

Biblical methods for child training

1. the rod of correction- spanking for defiance

Proverbs 22:15

¹⁵ Foolishness *is* bound up in the heart of a child;
The rod of correction will drive it far from him

2. communication - your child needs to be known and understood

Psalm 145:3-5 New King James Version (NKJV)

³ *Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
And His greatness is unsearchable.*

⁴ *One generation shall praise Your works to another,
And shall declare Your mighty acts.*

⁵ *I^[a] will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
And on Your wondrous works.^[b]*

Deuteronomy 6:5-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵ **You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.**

⁶ **“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.⁸**



Psalm 119:11¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my **heart**,
that I might not sin against You.

TEACH them _____ view point.

What would you do about a bully?

Proverbs 20:5

***⁵ Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water,
But a man of understanding will draw it out.***



We want of a change of _____ not just a change in

Shepherding your child's heart means teaching submission to authority, rescuing, protecting, gently restoring, appealing to the conscience for character development and correction and discipline, addressing the issues of the heart, communicating God's truth and directing in the way of God's wisdom, guiding discernment, leading, loving, nurturing, and pointing him to the Lord. Bedazzle him with God's glory. Show him his need for grace and point him to the cross of Christ

Sowing and Reaping

Galatians 6:8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Biblical vs worldly consequences

Lifetime of communication

- 1. Teach**
- 2. Instruct**
- 3. Correct**
- 4. Warn**
- 5. Entreaty**
- 6. Rebuke**
- 7. Encourage**
- 8. Pray**

Shepherding your child's heart summarized:

Your child with his physical abilities, personality and strengths and weaknesses is influenced

by all his *life experiences* (some under your control and some not in your control).

He is also influenced by your *shepherding/parenting*.

How your child responds to life experiences and how he responds to your shepherding is dependent on what your child is trusting in life whether it is God, himself or the world.

His heart determines behavior for the moment and ultimately determines the person he becomes.

We want our children to see that there is no true happiness apart from a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

**If we don't teach our children
to trust Christ
the world will teach them
not to**