

Parenthood
Week 6

Obedience 101: What Do You Do When You Can't Get to the Heart?

Review

Last week: Formative Discipline

What is Formative Discipline? This is the aspect of discipline that occurs through instruction of our children. Hebrew word for Discipline predominantly translated as Instruction, for example – Proverbs 1:2-8

What do we instruct our children? Psalm 34:11, 119; Proverbs 1:7, 22:6; 2 Timothy 3:14-16;

When and Where do we instruct? Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 11:18-20; Proverbs 22:6;

In what manner do we instruct? 1 Thessalonians 5:14

Before that: Getting to the Heart

Proverbs 4:23

IV. Parting Challenge: Goals for our Parenting

A. Goals for parenting: That they know Christ, fear the Lord, know His word, and walk in His ways. But we also parent so that our children learn to live under gracious, godly authority. Does your parenting prepare your child to live under God's authority?

B. Two dangers:

a. Legalism

b. License

C. Encouragement: God's grace is sufficient!

References

Tedd Tripp's *Shepherding a Child's Heart*

Tedd & Margy Tripp's *Instructing a Child's Heart*

Ginger Plowman's *Don't Make Me Count to Three!*

Obedience 101 - Intro

Biblical parenting focuses on the heart, but we must deal with behavior as well. Sometimes we temporarily forgo “heart training” due to, for example:

- Particular situations
- Developmental stages

I. The Biblical Basis for Obedience

Proverbs 1:8, 6:20; Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20

Eph 6:1, “Children, obey your parents...

- ...in the Lord...
- ...for this is right.”

II. Definition of Obedience

Obedience is *the willing submission of one person to the authority of another*. Essentially:

- My child does what I tell him *to do*.
- My child refrains from doing what I tell him *not to do*.

For the child, obedience is more than just doing what he is told. It means doing what he is told—

- A. Without Challenge or Excuse

- B. Without Delay

- C. Without Grumbling or an Attitude

(A Practical Tip: Teach your children to come to you *before* you give them a command.)

III. Obedience from the Parent’s Perspective – several “calls”

- A. A Call to *Consistency*

- B. A Call to the *Same Standard*

- C. A Call to *Training*

- D. A Call to *Encouragement*

- E. A Call to *Discernment*

- F. A Call to *Graciousness*