

Who Should Discipline the Children. . . Dad or Mom?

Who should discipline the children when they break the rules? I believe dad should do most of the disciplining when he is home. Parents must agree and support each other on the type of discipline they will employ in their home. They both need to make sure to follow through with the discipline set forth. Some foolish behavior can be discussed with your child. Sometimes discussion must be followed by action.

Some parents punish too much. If their child just looks at them wrongly they punish them. Some parents spend all their time threatening their children, but they exact a punishment. Your children will soon know you don't mean what you are threatening and you will be totally non-effective in training them.

As parents you need to spend less time talking and threatening and more time disciplining in love. Your actions speak louder than words. When you threaten, you simply are establishing patterns of resistance and rebellion.

Discipline needs to take place immediately. The Bible says; "When a sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, the hearts of the people are filled with schemes to do wrong." Eccl. 8:11 In other words, don't put off discipline for a child that has done wrong.

Discipline is the responsibility of both parents. Dad should take charge. However, if you are a single parent, you take all the responsibility of discipline.

It takes a lot of hard work to be a good parent. A Great parent has to diligently train their children in God's way.

What Ways Can Parents Discipline ?

Being a parent is not easy! It seems by the time your children are grown, you have learned how to be a good parent. Then it's too late!

It takes a lot of hard work to be a good parent. You have to teach by example, showing love and sometimes practice tough love. Love requires rules and discipline. When your teen is out of control, you need to bring them back into control.

What ways can a parent discipline? First of all, you must discipline in love. Check yourself and your motive and attitude towards the disciplinary act. Do not discipline in anger, but in love. In fact, the Bible says; "Do not provoke your children to anger, lest they be discouraged."

Some offenses require simple reproof, (a parent sitting with his daughter and having a "heart to heart" talk. . . No screaming or yelling.)

Some offenses require a loss of privileges and if a young child is involved, some spanking. If you are a parent of a little child, begin bring him under your control by the right kind of discipline.

When your teen talks back to you continually, punishment might involve not allowing her to speak in the home for a certain time period. If her behavior continues, take away school activity privileges.

Parenting does take a lot of work; there are a lot of tears, waiting late into the night, lots of "heart to hearts" and much discipline.

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A TEEN QUEST POWER SHEET

Discipline God's Way 5 Steps to Discipline

Young people really do want discipline in their lives. When your children have boundaries, they feel more secure. Disciplining children, even teenagers, should be a way of life for parents. This is God's plan.

Discipline should take place when you see a bad habit or wrong action taking root in your child. Here are six steps to disciplining in a positive and effective manner.

1. Although disobedience, stubbornness, and rebellion must be dealt with and not ignored, discipline should never take place publically.
2. Explain. Sit down with your son or daughter and explain the infraction. Don't yell, curse, or scream. Be cool but firm.
3. A young child should be spanked by simply using a rod. (As the Bible instructs.) Never spank your child in anger and never produce welts or bruises on your child's bottom. But, you must spank to break his will. In other words, he should be sobbing with no resistance. You will not be able to spank an older child or teen so to break his will, take away his privileges. This should be something he considers important.
4. After the punishment, show your child how to pray and ask God's forgiveness for the offense that was committed.
5. Re-affirm your love. Every time I

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would discipline my sons, we would follow up with a great time re-affirming our love for each other. They always knew I was punishing them because I loved them and cared about them.

6. Reconciliation is very important. Your child needs to go to the person or persons they have hurt and apologize to them. You need to lead them in this so they can achieve a clear conscience.

Ten year old Johnny returned from school and began fighting with his little brother. When his mom asked Johnny about it, he lied to her. She took him to his room, paddled him, prayed with him and spent time with him, re-affirming their love. Johnny not only apologized to his mom, but to his brother also.

Disciplining Teens God's Way !

I often receive phone calls from parents who are having trouble disciplining their teen. Often, the trouble doesn't stem from the rebelliousness of the child alone, but from disagreement between the parents.

As parents we must remember that parental agreement is essential in discipline. If a child senses disagreement between mom and dad, they are going to play on that fact. Also, they develop bad feelings towards the one who is doing all the disciplining. Amos 3:3 says; "How can two walk together unless they are agreed?" Be a realistic parent. Don't expect too much from your teen. Remember, God is patient with us. Psalm 103:13,14 says that God "pities His children for He knows our frame." Keep in mind your child's abilities. A teenager might look like an adult, but he is still coping with immaturity and fluctuating emotions. Sometimes our children don't get the job done because they are unsure of how to do it correctly. Sometimes they are grouchy simply because of lack of sleep, not because of disrespect. Be discerning !

If parents work together with the Lord at the center of the situation, there will be successful discipline in the family and your teen will respond to it.

What is the Difference Between Discipline and "Getting Even" ?

Many parents would love to lock their children in a closet for about ten years. . . until they reach adulthood. At home there is always a battle. Sometimes we just blow up at our son, punch him, slap him and especially scream at him.

Some parents are really convince that this kind of behavior is discipline. I know a young man who loved to make his mother upset so he could watch her scream, yell, hit and stomp. This boy would sit there and laugh at the way his mother was acting. He simply made a game out of his mother's reactive anger.

Fathers especially have violent tempers. If Johnny breaks some rule, or if he forgets to take out the garbage, his dad might begin beating him.

During my college years, a friend of mine shared with me how he had very low self-esteem. He felt he could never measure up and do anything right. His father had not used physical punishment, but felt he had a right to say things like; "You will never amount to anything" or "Why does everything go wrong when you touch it?" This was his father's way of "getting even".

Parents are responsible to discipline their children, not to "get even". We have been called as parents to bring our children under control.

Discipline has to be given in love and in control. When you discipline in anger you have a tremendous tendency to do it to get even. James 1:20 says; "The wrath of man does not produce the righteous of God."

Let's discipline our children and not "get even".

The Dos and Don'ts Of Discipline

Are you having a tough time disciplining your children? Webster defines discipline as "to bring under control". Are you losing control of your children? Many parents get tired of dealing with their children and they just give up, allowing them to do whatever they want to do. Parenting is not easy! God knows that each time you bring your child under control, you receive a payoff as their character is shaped a little more.

Make sure you and your spouse agree on the punishment. Amos 3:3 says; "How can two walk together unless they have agreed on what to do?" For example: Sue takes the car to the mall when her mom told her not to. When she comes home, mom tells her she cannot use the car for one month. When dad comes home, he says she can continue to use the car. He destroyed everything his wife said. This sent a message to Sue that her mom is not important. Mom and dad should agree on discipline ahead of time and should back each other's decisions.

You must agree and support each other. If you are close, really love and support each other, you will have fewer problems with your children.