

Raising children to follow Christ

Titus 1:6, Children who believe, part 1

Introduction:

Leadership is primarily example

Phil. 3:17 *Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.*

2 Thess. 3:9 *offer ourselves as a model for you, that you might follow our example.*

1 Tim. 4:12 *in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.*

Heb. 13:7 *Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.*

1 Pet. 5:3 *proving to be examples to the flock.*

1 Cor. 11:1 *Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ*

1 Thess 2:7-11 we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing **mother** tenderly cares for her own children ...we had a fond affection for you ...you became very dear to us... our labor and hardship...working night and day... blamelessly we behaved toward you...we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a **father** would his own children

Titus 1:5 *For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, **6** namely, if any man be above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion.*

#1. _____ of biblical parenting issues

1st - What if I am a Christian father that sought to lead my children to Christ unsuccessfully?

2nd - Does Titus 1:6 mean a single man or a childless man can't be an elder?

3rd - Since Titus 1:6 doesn't mention a wife, does it mean an elder can have an unbelieving wife?

1 Cor 9:5 *Do we not have a right to take along a **believing** wife, even as the rest of the apostles*

2 Cor 6:14 *Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?...or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?*

4th - Is Titus 1:6 an issue of Sovereign election?

Matthew 5:16 *Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

Acts 2:42 *continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ...And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common; ... as anyone might have need. ...And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

Philippians 2:15 *that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, **16** holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may have cause to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.*

1 Peter 2:12 *Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.*

1 Peter 3:1 *wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, **2** as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.*

1 Timothy 2:15 *But women shall be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.*

2 Timothy 3:15 *and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that **leads** to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

2 Timothy 1:5 *For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well.*

#2. _____ of parenting principles

1st - The responsibility of parenting never _____

2nd - Never _____ parenting your children

1-Only older children could be accused of dissipation

2-Elders generally means older men

3-Other Greek words for children do indicate age

3rd - Know what God _____ from parenting and what you're _____ for in your children

1-Don't settle for less than God's _____ for parenting

1 Timothy 3:4 *He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity **5** (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?)*

2. Passionately pursue the true _____ and resulting walk in _____ of your children

1 Tim. 4:12 *Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.*

1 Tim. 3:11 *Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.*

2 Tim. 2:2 *And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.*

Eph. 1:1 *...to the saints who are at Ephesus, and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:*

Eph. 6:21 *Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you*

3. Seek to release your children as _____ of Christ

Titus 1:6 *not accused of dissipation or rebellion.*

Dissipation

Eph. 5:18 *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit*

Rebellion

Titus 1:10 *For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers...*

Conclusion: Questions for Self-evaluation; Yes or No?

- Do I reflect godly wisdom and consistency in the care and discipline of my children?
- Are my children well-behaved and well-adjusted both at home and in public?
- Are my children responsible and courteous, having a reputation for not being insubordinate to authorities or "wild" in their behavior?
- Do my children treat me with respect and obedience?
- Do I spend time each week teaching my children Christian truth and wisdom for life?
- Do I have trouble disciplining my children without anger?
- Do I have a smooth-running household that proves I have basic management skills?