
SERMON NOTES July 30, 2023

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

Various Proverbs Truth and Consequences Pastor Mike

During the last part of this morning's message Pastor Mike will be responding to and answering questions from the congregation related to the Bible's teaching about wisdom and parenting. You can text your question to 330-400-3242.

- I. _____ from Proverbs for parents

- II. Teaching wisdom through _____ and _____
 - a. The difference between _____ and _____
 - b. Communicate _____ and _____
 - c. Be consistent in your _____
 - d. Communicate consequences result from _____

- III. Choosing the appropriate _____
 - a. Appropriate to _____ of the offense
 - b. Connected to _____ of the offense
 - c. Appropriate to _____ of the child

- IV. Remembering _____ as parents/grandparents
 - a. _____ from things with _____
 - b. Teaching _____, _____, and _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. Through this series Pastor Mike has defined the idea of Biblical wisdom as “**understanding and living according to what is true.**” Wisdom teaches that God has woven his truth into the fabric of the world, and there are natural consequences when we keep or break those laws of God’s truth. Parents are called to teach our kids both truth and wisdom in part by magnifying the consequences of their choices.
 - a. Many parents today believe that it is their role to protect their kids from pain and disappointment in life. What drives this common belief amongst parents? Why is the Bible’s teaching at such odds with the cultural values of our time regarding parenting?
 - b. Proverbs 13:24 teaches, “**Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.**” How is sparing the rod (protecting from consequences) hatred of our children? How is discipline an expression of love?
 - c. Can we teach our children to be wise without some discipline of negative consequences? Why or why not?
2. In Ephesians 6:4, God challenges parents to bring their children up “*in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*”
 - a. What is the discipline of the Lord?
 - b. What is the relationship and difference between discipline and punishment?
 - c. What is the instruction of the Lord?
3. We are called to teach our children wisdom by teaching them truth and the consequences of disregarding or disobeying that truth. In his message, Pastor Mike said as parents, we must have a plan that we decide in advance (and are consistently revising) about our rules and expectations, and the consequences for not abiding by these.
 - a. He said that when we get angry at our kids, it’s almost always because we don’t have a plan for dealing with their action. As you think about your own experience, when you have grown angry and frustrate with our kids, is it because you didn’t have a plan for dealing with their behavior? Why or why not?
 - b. What are the issues that you are dealing with in your children’s (or grandkids) behavior right now? What is your plan to teach them wisdom? What are the consequences?
 - c. How consistent are you in your enforcement of your rules and expectations? How consistent are you in following through with the consequences? How can inconsistency provoke, exasperate, or discourage your kids (see Eph 6:4 and Col 3:21).
4. In his message Pastor Mike talked about the importance of choosing appropriate consequences
 - a. He said that they have to be appropriate to the heart of the offense. What did he mean by that? Can you think of examples of childish, foolish, and disobedient heart attitudes in your children?
 - b. He said when possible, we should try to connect the consequences to the nature of the offense. What did he mean by that? Can you think of example of doing this with your children?
 - c. He said that our consequences should be appropriate to the character of each of our children. What did he mean by this? Can you think of examples where this would be important with your children?