

Rightly Related – 7

One of the greatest gifts God has given us is people

Great relationships are a sign of a flourishing life but they don't come by chance

Sadly, we live in a world filled with broken relationships

- Broken marriages
- Failed friendships
- Family fall-outs
- Bitter business partnerships

The principles that you sow into a relationship will determine what you reap

The Bible speaks about marriage, friendship, parenting, employer relations, how to treat others and have a great relationship with God

John 15:13–15 (NKJV)

¹³ Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

Relationships are fostered by sacrifice, obedience to Christ and open, honest communication

No Slide: Colossians 3:18–4:6 (NKJV)

- ¹⁸ Wives, submit to your own husbands
¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.
²⁰ Children, obey your parents
²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children
²² Bondservants, obey in all things your masters
²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord

⁴ Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair.
² Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

⁵ Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time. ⁶ Let your speech always *be* with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

Every partnership has three strands...

- You
- Those in partnership with you
- Common interest, vision or goal

Ephesians 4:3 (NLT)

³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

- Great partnerships are based on everyone doing their share
- When we don't do our share the relationship is out of balance
- It's not 50/50 it's 100/100

The Blessing of Children

Psalm 127:3 (NLT)

³ Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him.

- When you become a parent, you create a new family
- There comes a responsibility to look after them
- Family is God's idea
- We are entrusted with the lives of a new generation
- The Bible has a lot of wisdom and counsel on raising children successfully

As parents we should ask God to show us how to invest in our children and build their lives up properly

Matthew 6:8 (NLT)

⁸for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!

- God will show us what our children need even before they ask
- He has fashioned them specifically – **Psalm 139**
- He wants to show us how to raise them up into their destiny

Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)

⁶ Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.

God wants us to partner with Him to raise our children in the way that He has created them for

How to give your Children your best

A Good Name

Matthew 6:9 (NLT)

⁹ Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.

- A name is something they should be able to wear with honor
- Not something that brings a liability and shame
- Give your children a reason to be proud of their heritage
- God is our Father!

A Relationship with God

Matthew 6:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

- Don't be hyper spiritual
- Don't try to bring earth to heaven
 - bring heaven to earth
- Your children will learn to relate to God as they relate to you and you point them to a relationship with Him
- Don't expect your children to be little angels
- Allow them to see the testimony of God working through them
- Train them in the ways of God in a relatable manner that equips them to love God and love life
- Help them realize that the will of God is exciting and can be applied to the REAL world

Ephesians 6:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

- Discipline and instruction – NLT
- There is nothing more frustrating to children than to have a bunch of rules and regulations without the security that comes through a real relationship
- Rules without relationship breeds rebellion

Being a Bread Winner

Matthew 6:11 (NKJV)

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

- Your children should know where to come to get their needs met
- First by you and then teach them to look to God
- Being a bread winner is more than providing for their material needs
- Teach them to tap into the resources of heaven as well as God's wisdom, understanding and the knowledge they need to live resourcefully
- Teach them the benefit of hard work, consistency and generosity

Ephesians 4:28 (NKJV)

²⁸ Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

Build a relationship with your children

Be a Friend

Matthew 6:12 (NKJV)

¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

- Give your children room to grow
- Forgive them for their shortcomings
 - admit yours and forgive yourself
- Don't force them to become what you want them to be
- Accept them for who they are
- Let them be who they were destined to be

Be a leader

Matthew 6:13 (NKJV)

¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

- Where are you leading your children?
- Are you leading them into temptation and rebellion?
- Leadership is about example
- They will not do what you say they will do what you do

2 Chronicles 20:32 (NKJV)

³² And he walked in the way of his father Asa, and did not turn aside from it, doing *what was* right in the sight of the LORD.

- You can teach what you know but you reproduce what you are

Be a coach or trainer

- Encourage them in their strengths and help them overcome their weaknesses
- You can shape them and equip them with positive life skills
- Don't be overly critical
- Teach them how to give and receive love
- The way we think is passed down through the generations
- We need to train our children to live a blessed life

Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)

⁶ Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.

Even as this scripture is true in a positive way if we train our children in the wrong way they will not depart from that

If you were raised by your parents in the WRONG way that is no excuse to continue to perpetuate it

We love to blame our failures in life on our parents

Though it may be true that we were not parented properly placing the blame on our parents will not change the way we raise our children

Except responsibility!

You can change the future!

Teach your Children...

Proverbs 29:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul.

Godly Discipline

- The key is consistency
- Don't lash out and lose your temper
- Be consistent with what you do and say
- Be in agreement with your spouse
- Discuss disagreements in private

Proverbs 29:21 (NKJV)

²¹ He who pampers his servant from childhood will have him as a son in the end.

Love them, but don't spoil them

- There is a difference between loving and spoiling
- Love will include chastening and correction
- Children need to know that every action has a consequence
- We reap what we sow

We need to realize that we are making an investment in our children

- Remember we are making deposits in them for life through the words we speak and our behavior
- They need to hear that they can make it
- They don't need to hear that they will never amount to anything

Investing in our Children

Proverbs 29:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Where *there is* no revelation, the people cast off restraint;
But happy *is* he who keeps the law.

If all our children hear is that they will never amount to anything they will eventually believe it

Live by Godly principles

- When you live by Bible principles you will see Bible results
- Our children will learn to honor us as parents when they see the way we honor our parents and elders

Fill their lives with vision

- **Proverbs 29:18 ASV** says they will cast off restraint
- Rebellion is linked to a lack of vision
- When there is a sense of hopelessness we live carelessly
- Encourage them to dream and give them direction

Take responsibility for a Peaceful Home

- Don't be afraid to apologize
- Pride will devastate your home
- Transparency and honesty are invaluable

Proverbs 29:22–23 (NKJV)

²² An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression. ²³ A man's pride will bring him low, But the humble in spirit will retain honor.