

Distinctly Christian Parenting Part 2

A misty mountain landscape with evergreen trees and a waterfall, overlaid with a black text box and a yellow square.

Biblical parenting is gospel
training for your kids

Ephesians 6:1-4
Message

Distinctly Christian parenting is
gospel work

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Recognize the loss of gospel focus in permissive parenting models

Return parenting back to the Bible and back to Christ

Gentle Parenting

- ...teaches that children are born innocent and basically good by nature
- ...teaches parents to not use the word 'sin' with young children
- ...discourages disciplining children and some oppose any kind of correction




Lenient Parenting

“Laissez-faire parenting does not produce gracious, humble children. It produces brats. They are neither fun to be around, nor happy themselves. They are demanding and insolent. Their “freedom” is not a blessing to them or others. They are free the way a boat without a rudder is free. They are the victims of their whims. Sooner or later, these whims will be crossed. That spells misery.”

John Piper, *“Parents, Require Obedience of Your Children,”* www.desiringgod.org

Adam and Christ (Rom 5:12-21)

Adam - Through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners



Christ - Through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous

Biblical Response to Gentle Parenting

- Children are not born innocent (Rom 5:12-21; Eph 2:3; Gal 2:15 “nature”; Ps 51:5; 58:3)
- If God’s word is wrong about discipline, then why trust His word about salvation?
- “Obedience is a new-covenant, gospel category” (John Piper; see Rom 1:5; 15:18)
- “Something good” in children? 1 Kgs 14:12-13 - “child” can be as old as a young adult!
- Children not held accountable for sin? (Isa 7:15-16; Deut 1:39)

What are Isa 7:15-16 and Deut 1:39 saying?

- Small children are not able to “choose” to follow God or to reject Him (Josh 24:15)
- Parents are to use training, instruction and consequences to build into the child sound theology
- These verses do NOT teach that children don't sin
- See Deut 6, Eph 6, Proverbs

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