Parenting with Purpose

WHY:

1. **<u>CHILDREN ARE A HERITATE AND REWARD FROM THE LORD.</u>**
   Ps. 127:3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2. **<u>GOD SEEKS GODLY OFFSPRING.</u>**
   Malachi 2:15 ESV Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth.

***** Some seek to raise "good" children, God is seeking "godly offspring" – what's the difference?**

*****What is your desired outcome for your children? <u>"good/godly?"</u>**

3. **<u>GOD COMMANDS PARENTS TO TEACH THEIR CHILDREN DILIGENTLY.</u>**
   Deuteronomy 6:6–7 ESV - *"And **these words that I command you today** shall be on **your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children**, and shall **talk of them when you sit in your house**, and **when you walk by the way**, and **when you lie down**, and **when you rise**.*

HOW:

4. **God's word needs to be in my heart so I can teach my children the ways of the Lord. It should be something that I talk about all the time and not left to someone else.**

~ Parents love God's word, Read it, Know what it says, Let be the authority in your lives leading to change. MY PARENTS

~ Read an age appropriate Bible to the kids, picture, adventure, KJV

~ Let men and women in the Bible be their hero. LEVI

~ Pray with your children, let them take a turn to pray aloud. Dinner time, bed time, help finding something, need a friend. BEDTIME COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.

~ Point them back to Jesus when he answers their prayers, he cares about what's going in their lives/testimonies (hand me down clothes)

~ Be an example of in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity "SHOOT"

~<u>Tell the truth</u>, forgive, be humble, be a servant, live a life that honors God.

ENTERTAINMENT:

~ Listening to the Bible on record, Adventures in Odyssey, going to bed, doing chores, in the car, washing dishes.

~Watch The Chosen, The House of David and take the opportunity to turn to the Bible with your children not taking everything at face value. God's word is where we find TRUTH.

5. **<u>GOD GIVES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PRODUCE GODLY OFFSPRING</u>**
   Eph 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." Fathers, do not provoke your children to

anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction OF THE LORD. (nurture and admonition)

NURTURE: the idea of active involvement in shaping their character, hands on training and skill building that teaches self control, boundaries and moral accountability.

ADMONITION: verbal instruction and warning. Refers to speaking into a child's heart and mind-using words of encouragement, counsel, remind and gently warn them about spiritual dangers or consequences of their choices.

A tale of two Fathers – which do YOU desire to emulate?
Abraham (see Gen 18:18-19) & Eli (see 1Sam 3:13 & 1Sam 2:29-30)

Gen 18:18-19 …seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him."

1Sam 3:13 And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.

1Sam 2:29-30 Why then do you scorn my sacrifices and my offerings that I commanded for my dwelling, and honor your sons above ME by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel? Therefore the Lord, the God of Israel, declares: 'I promised that your house and the house of your father should go in and out before me forever, 'but now the Lord declares: 'Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed.

HOW DID EACH MAN DEAL WITH HIS CHILDREN?

ABRAHAM: commanded his children to keep the ways of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice.

ELI: he did not restrain them from sin and blaspheming God by taking the choicest of meats that God gave instructions not to eat.

HOW DID EACH MAN DEAL WITH HIS CHILDREN?
ABRAHAM: _____

ELI: _____

HOW DID GOD DEAL WITH EACH MAN?
ABRAHAM: _____

ELI: _____

It Is A Heart Issue

What we describe as the "terrible two's"- the "teenage years" - or a "stage my child is going through", is often not a stage at all, but an issue of the heart - the result of a child going his own way, or walking in rebellion.

<u>What do these Scriptures teach about our children and their heart?</u>

1) When did my child become sinful? _____
- Psalms 51:5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

2) Where does sin originate? _____
- Mark 7:21-22 For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come--sexual immorality, theft, murder, (22) adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

3) What is in my child's heart? _____
4) How can I help my child overcome it?_____
- Proverbs 22:15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far away.

5) What does folly lead to? _____
6) And when ruin comes - how does the heart respond to the LORD? _____
- Proverbs 19:3 A person's own folly leads to their ruin, yet their heart rages against the LORD.

7) The person with the foolish heart may grow up to say: _____
- Psalm 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

8) Why is the condition of the heart so critical? _____
- Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Through Biblical training and discipline we affect the heart (the authority within)

Heart in Hebrew is *lev*. *Lev* in the ancient Hebrew picture language looks like this: 
Reading from right to left, the first letter, *lamed*, is a shepherd's staff. The shepherd's staff represents control or authority as in a shepherd having control over his flock. The second letter, *beit*, is the picture of the floor plan of the nomadic tent and represents the idea of being inside as the family resides within the tent. So when we read in pictographic form we can conclude that **the heart is what controls the inside or has the authority within.**

Godly Training - Love & Hope

God's method of training our children is a message of love and hope, AND there are eternal consequences at stake. Faithfulness and consistency to the process now is far better than the pain that will come from the avoidance of discipline and the outcome of a life not surrendered to Jesus.

1) What does the LORD do with those he loves? _____
2) It is the same for a father who feels how about his son? _____

- Proverbs 3:11-12 – My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

3) How does the Bible describe hate in this verse? _____
4) What about love? _____

- Proverbs 13:24 Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

5) How does Heb 12:10 describe God's discipline (good or bad?)_____
6) What is the long term focus of God's discipline? _____

- Heb. 12:10:"Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness"

7) What long term benefits come from discipline? _____

- Proverbs 23:14 Punish him with the rod and save his soul from death. (KJV says "and shall deliver his soul from hell")

8) What is the outcome of sparing the rod?_____

- Proverbs 13:24 He who spares the rod spoils the child

9) What if I have a hard time with my child's crying? _____

- Proverbs 19:18 Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

10) What are the effects upon the life of the parent? _____

- Proverbs 29:17 Correct your son and he will comfort your soul

11) Children obeying their parents is the first _____ with a _____
12) What is the promise? That it _____
and that you may _____

- Ephesians 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. (2) "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), (3) "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land."