

What Does Scripture Say to Parents?

40 Biblical Principles for Parenting

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1. General biblical principles for parenting:

- * **Pray for your children (specifically, for them to follow God's commands)**

(I Samuel 12:23, I Chronicles 29:19)

- * **Give praise generously**

(Proverbs 3:27)

- * **Pass on wisdom**

(Proverbs 4:11, Proverbs 31:26)

- * **Teach your children to find their refuge in the Lord**

(Proverbs 14:26)

- * **Tell your children of God's wonderful deeds and His faithfulness**

(Psalm 78:4, Psalm 145:4, Isaiah 38:19)

- * **Rightly handle the word of truth**

(II Timothy 2:15)

- * **Teach them the Gospel and prepare them to recognize false doctrine**

(Romans 1:16, Galatians 1:8-9)

2. Biblical principles for discipline:

- * **Be diligent in discipline in order to drive out foolishness**

(Proverbs 13:24, Proverbs 22:15, Proverbs 29:15)

- * **Teach your children God's commands**

(Deuteronomy 6:6-7, I Samuel 12:23, Psalm 103:18-19)

- * **Reprove, rebuke and exhort with patience and teaching**

(Proverbs 3:12, II Timothy 4:2)

- * **Set an example for your children and do not lead them into sin**

(Proverbs 20:7, Matthew 18:6, I Peter 5:2-3)

*** Restore them gently when they sin**

(Galatians 6:1-2)

*** Exhort and encourage them to walk in a manner worthy of God by loving others and doing good works**

(I Thessalonians 2:11-12, Hebrews 10:24)

3. Biblical principles for relating to your children:

*** Have compassion on your children and remember their weakness**

(Psalm 103:13-14)

*** Do not bear a grudge against them**

(Leviticus 19:18)

*** Love them with love that is patient and kind, not boastful or envious or rude, not irritable or insisting on your own way, bearing all things and rejoicing in the truth**

(I Corinthians 13:4-7)

*** Display the fruits of the Spirit toward your children (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness and self-control)**

(Galatians 5:22-23)

*** Walk in a manner worthy of your calling by showing humility, gentleness, patience, and bearing with them in love**

(Ephesians 4:1-3)

*** Do not let unwholesome talk come out of your mouth**

(Ephesians 4:29)

*** Encourage them and give grace with your words**

(Ephesians 4:29)

*** Be reasonable and joyful**

(Philippians 4:4-5)

*** Be compassionate, kind, humble, meek, and patient**

(Colossians 3:12)

*** Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you**

(Colossians 3:13)

*** Lay down your life for them**

(I John 3:16)

*** Love in deed and truth and not just words**

(I John 3:18)

*** Love them as God has loved you**

(I John 4:11)

4. Biblical principles for our own spiritual growth as parents:

*** Seek God's kingdom first**

(Matthew 6:33)

*** Love God and others**

(Matthew 22:38-39, Romans 13:9)

*** Walk with integrity**

(Proverbs 20:7)

*** Choose your advisors carefully and remain grounded in God's Word**

(Psalm 1:1-2)

*** Provide for your children and your household**

(II Corinthians 12:14, I Timothy 5:8)

*** Remember you will sow what you reap**

(Galatians 6:7)

*** Wives, submit to your husbands**

(Ephesians 5:22)

*** Fathers, do not provoke your children**

(Ephesians 6:4)

*** Do not be anxious about anything**

(Philippians 4:6-7)

*** Pray about everything**

(Philippians 4:6-7)

*** Think on what is true and right**

(Philippians 4:8)

*** Be thankful**

(I Thessalonians 5:18)

*** Draw near to the throne of grace to find mercy and grace to help in time of need**

(Hebrews 4:16)

*** Ask God for wisdom**

(James 1:5)

List of Scripture references: Leviticus 19:18; Deuteronomy 6:6-7; I Samuel 12:23; I Chronicles 29:19; Psalm 1:1-2, 78:4, 103:13-14, 103:17-18, 145:4; Proverbs 3:12, 3:27, 4:11, 13:24, 14:26, 20:7, 22:15, 29:15, 31:26; Isaiah 38:19; Matthew 6:33, 18:6, 22:38-39; Romans 1:16, 13:9; I Corinthians 13:4-7; II Corinthians 12:14; Galatians 1:8-9, 5:22-23, 6:1, 6:7; Ephesians 4:1-3, 4:29, 5:22, 6:4; Philippians 4:4-8; Colossians 3:12-13; I Thessalonians 2:11-12; I Thessalonians 5:18; I Timothy 5:8; II Timothy 2:15, 4:2; Hebrews 4:16, 10:24; James 1:5; I Peter 5:2-3; I John 3:16; I John 3:18; I John 4:11*

*The above Scripture references can be copied and pasted into the search box on www.esvbible.org to read the entire list of verses.