



Welcome to Preparing Your Children to Leave Home with Lifetime Biblical Convictions.



Some of my background will help you understand how I came to speak on this subject. You see, both my wife and I were involved in a discipleship ministry for a number of years, my wife in college ministry and me in military and college ministries which is where we met. In that vocation, we got to see the fruit of Christian families and churches; and, it was disheartening too many times. I saw so many examples of those that strayed from the faith when left to themselves in the military and college after being raised in a Christian home. One of those examples occurred the first year of my college ministry and became a catalyst that brought me here today.

- Ministry Background
- College Freshmen

We may have a goal to raise a godly generation, but somehow that objective is being missed too many times. That is what we are going to focus on in this workshop.



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

- **Introduction, Where Are We Aiming**
- **Parental Paradigm**
- **Teen's Paradigm**
- **Spiritual Foundation**
- **Parental Response - LIPP Service**
- **Conclusion, Q & A**

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Here is the outline of what we will cover, and I will go very fast but don't worry about what you miss, because I am going to show you how to get this entire PowerPoint with all the notes. So what I want you to do today is listen and jot down just a few of the areas the Lord lays on your heart to take home with you.



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

### Your Parental Paradigm

Genesis 2:24

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and they shall become one flesh. “

That means two things:

1. Children will leave home
2. Parents should prepare them to leave home

**Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life**

#### Parental Paradigm or Mindset.

In the very beginning , the bible establishes our parental objective for our children.

It is stated in Genesis 2:24 which is before the fall, but it is also restated 3 times in the NT. (by Jesus in Mt 19:5, Mk 10:7 and Paul in Ephesians 5: 31). It says, **“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and they shall become one flesh. “**

#### That means two things:

1. At some point in the future, your child will and should leave your home and start his or her own home.
2. That means if we take seriously our God given responsibility as parents, we should be preparing our children to leave home and be on their own.

This should be an undercurrent on our minds when we think about our children. In God’s plan they will leave our home and to support God’s design for our children we must prepare them for that occasion. It may be tough to think of our children that way, but if we do, then when they are at an age where it is time to leave home, we will know they have the basics for facing the world. We may look at that time with sorrow about losing them but with confidence that they have been prepared for life on their own.

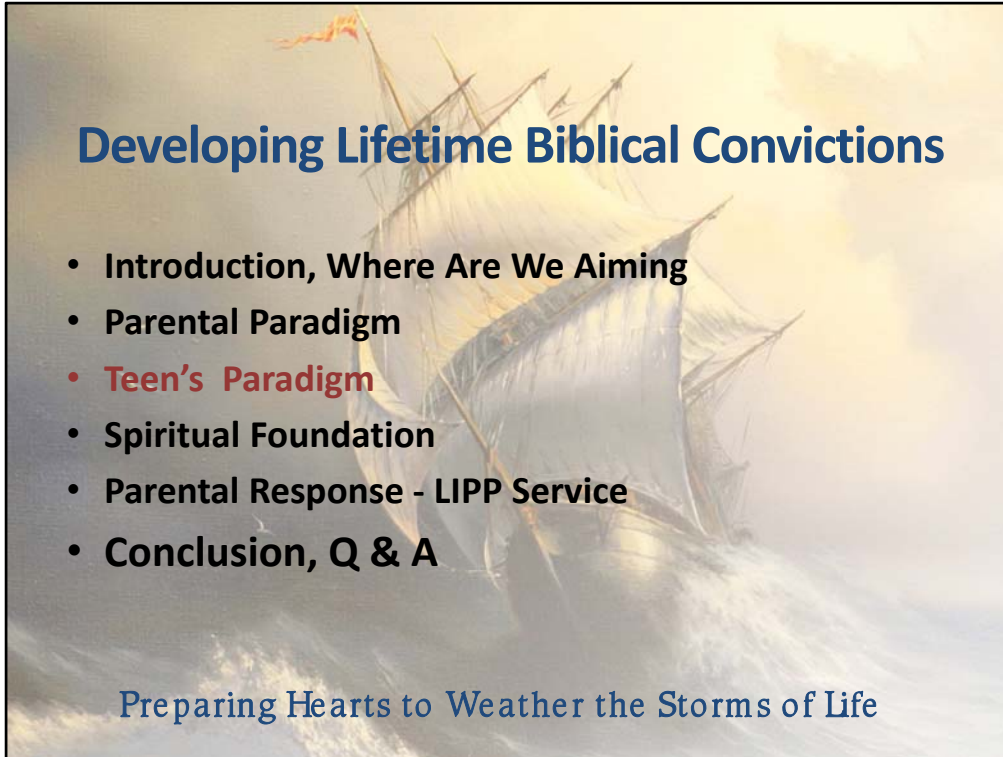
So our goal should be to train our children to be on their own? We are not just to manage them but to prepare them for independence. **However, what I saw in my ministry is that they may have been prepared academically but not spiritually. Before the Lord, our most important job is to prepare them spiritually. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his own soul.**

Are we making the right choices before God to pass on to them for their independence?

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Thomas Sewell article – General MacArthur.

**Paradigm:** Is the term used to describe the set of experiences, beliefs and values that affect the way an individual perceives reality and responds to that perception.



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

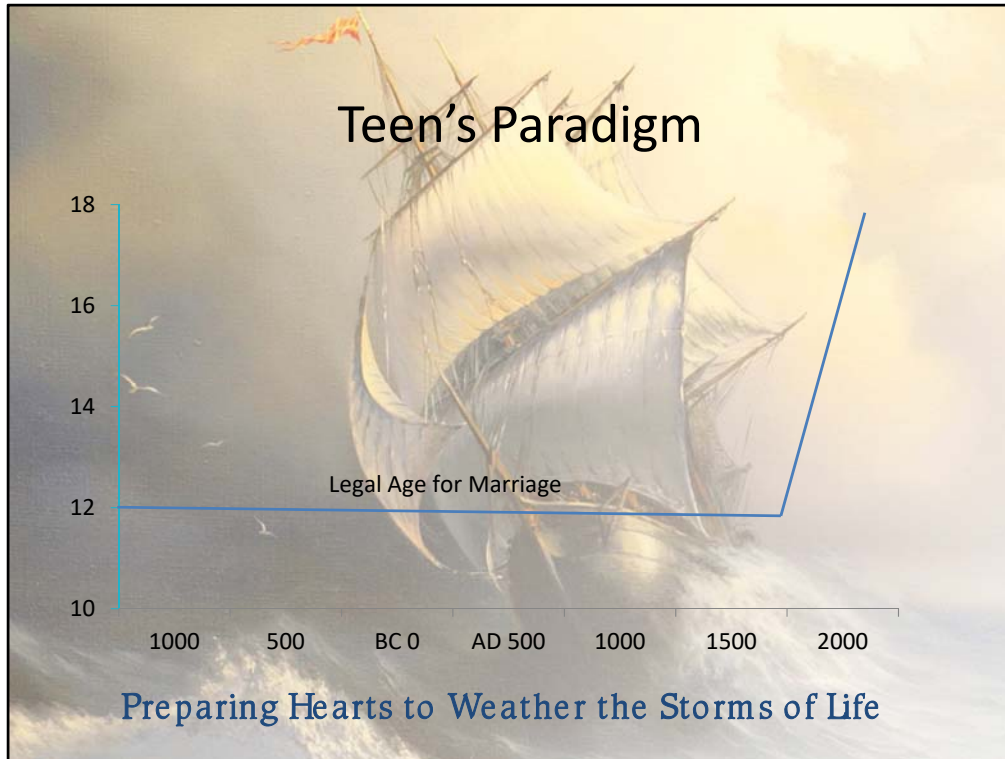
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The next area is what I call the Teen Paradigm because,

Throughout history there has been no reference to adolescence at least until about the last century. It is not mentioned in the bible or in history for a reason.

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Only in this last century have we defined adolescence as the time between when the child reaches puberty and the time they are actually considered an adult. However for the last 3000 years, until about the last century, those two events coincided. Once a child reached the teenage years, they were also considered an adult.

Two thousand years ago under Roman law, women could marry at twelve and men at fourteen. A thousand years ago under English law it was the same. Two hundred years ago under common law in the United States it was still the same—women could marry at twelve and men at fourteen. For 3000 years, the minimum legal age for marriage did not change. Of course, not everyone married at twelve or fourteen, just as everyone does not marry at eighteen today.

So, what's the point? For the first time in thousands of years, teenagers were redefined as "children." and were not allowed to make adult decisions.

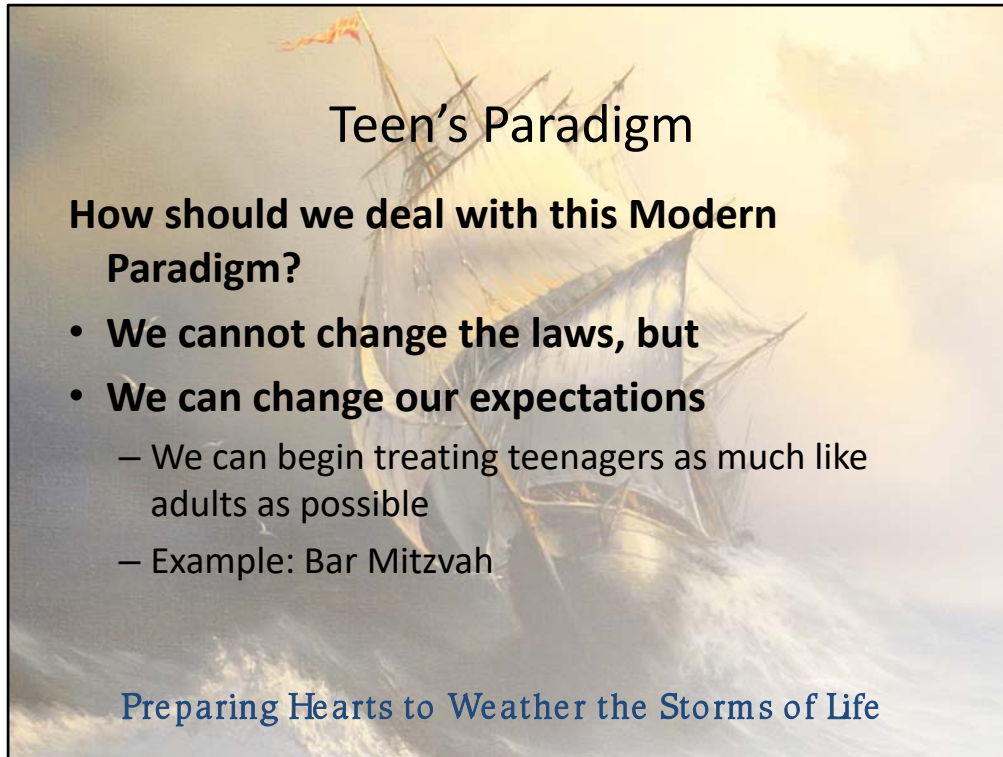
## Teen's Paradigm

We have created Adolescence or That in-between State where we Treat Adults like a Child.  
We have moved child Expectations into the Adult person.

The diagram consists of two rows of two overlapping circles each. The top row has a circle on the left labeled 'Child' and a circle on the right labeled 'Adult'. The bottom row also has a circle on the left labeled 'Child' and a circle on the right labeled 'Adult'. The circles in each row overlap, and the two rows are positioned one above the other.

Because of this we have left an area of confusion for both parent and teen. **Too many times we still regard them as a child and treat them that way when they should actually be capable of adult responses and behavior. As such we have created lower expectations in their minds as well.**

**Now, academically these days it may take longer to be able to support themselves, but we are talking about maturity in the area of behavior and responsible attitudes.**



**Teen's Paradigm**

**How should we deal with this Modern Paradigm?**

- **We cannot change the laws, but**
- **We can change our expectations**
  - We can begin treating teenagers as much like adults as possible
  - Example: Bar Mitzvah

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So how do we deal with this perspective today? There are some restrictions on what the law and other people will let you do.

For example,

- We may not be able to send them out to work a job but we can see that they learn to work at home or better, take responsibility. Although they may not be able to earn much money, you can still see that they learn how to handle money wisely.
- The law will not allow them to marry, but you can help them learn how to get along in a family relationship and how to treat the opposite sex.

Even if other people expect your teenagers to act irresponsibly, you can expect them to be responsible.

This is still done successfully today in certain societies. The Bar Mitzvah in the Jewish society is an example



## Expectations for Teens

### Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah

- Takes place at the age of 13 for boys and 12 for girls
- The boy becomes a man in the eyes of the synagogue
- There are privileges of all sorts that become available
- It opens up opportunities for the young man to have experiences that can foster building a clearer image of himself in an adult, productive capacity
- This stimulates the belief in what the young man can become and the place he can assume in the temple and in Jewish society

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For example, in Jewish Culture, the Bar Mitzvah ceremony takes place at the age of 13 years of age.

>>The boy becomes a man in the eyes of the synagogue. A 'man of duty' as implied in the name of the ceremony, a man capable of upholding law and who is now responsible for themselves. Gone are the care free days of childhood. The young man is now seen as an adult in the eyes of Jewish Law.

>>There are privileges of all sorts that become available to the one who has had 'Bar Mitzvah'. One of these privileges is that they are now able to get up in front of everyone at temple and read from the Torah in services. It is acknowledged by the faith that full spiritual and intellectual maturity does require time, **but**

>>this ceremony opens up opportunities for the young man to have experiences that can foster building a clearer image of the self in an adult, productive capacity.

>>This stimulates the belief in what the young man can become and the place he can assume in the temple and in the Jewish society.



## Expectations for Teens

Bar Mitzvah,

- It is these **beliefs** and **expectations** within himself and of those around him, including family, friends and church that help foster and drive the maturing of the young man.

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As a symbolic measure of the change from child to adult, the Bar Mitzvah represents that the young man has a greater understanding of what is expected of them, and greater understanding of themselves. It is in large part the **expectations** that are stimulated within the young man who is going through this initiation that drive the belief in taking his next step in growth. It is also the **belief and expectation** of those around him in his family, friends, and church that help drive this growing belief.

## Parental Response

### What should be our response?

- Adjust your expectations
- Expect adult behavior at 12 to 13 years
- Treat our children more like adults at that age
- Adjust our teaching methods to accommodate adults
- Target our instruction to prepare for independence

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>> Adjust your expectations for teens and those approaching teens. Prepare them for what is expected of them when they reach that age. But, don't dump the truck, allow them to grow. After all, you are still growing spiritually.

>> Expect Adult behavior at 12 to 13 years – Kind, considerate, humble, responsible, respecting others and property

>> Treat them like adults – Freedom should be accompanied by self discipline. Responsibilities should be handled on their own initiative, i.e. without being told. They should own their responsibilities as it is only right for them to contribute to the family. **This is very important and I go in to detail about how to do this in the Preschool workshop. There I outline some of the transitional principles of how to begin to help your child move from child thinking to adult thinking.**

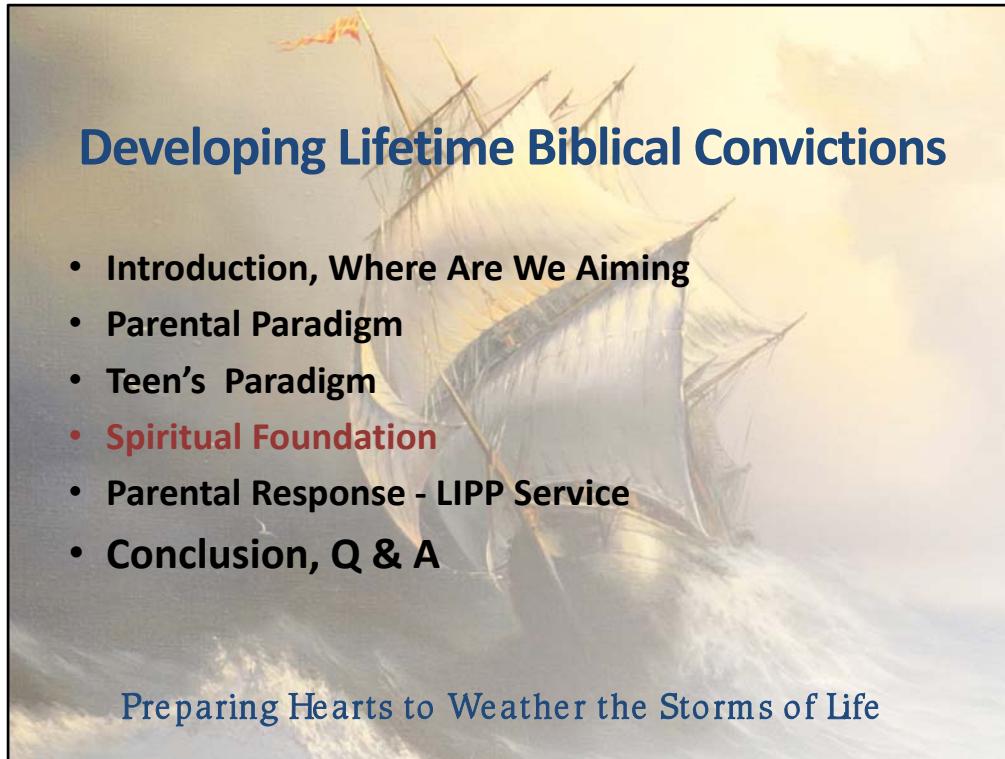
>> Adjust your teaching methods – Start asking them what the right or best thing is to do. Asking what their thinking is for their choices for what they want to do. Involving them in the decision making process. Your instruction takes the form of helping them to think through their choices and decisions. With freedom comes accountability which means that for a while, they must agree to let you know how they have used their freedom and talk through their choices, decisions and results!! I.e. they must earn your trust showing that they know how to make wise choices and will choose to make wise choices. **Make sure they have a proper understanding that Scriptural principles should take precedence in their choices and decisions.**

Allowing them to fail and make mistakes. **No Fatal Mistakes !!!! Be wise!** And talking through what happened and maybe what would be better next time approaching them from a helping standpoint, not a dictator. Outwardly recognizing their good decisions and actions. If they stay up too late, they have to pay the price the next day. But we don't lower our performance expectations. We focus on holding them responsible for results rather than managing their time and activities. They need to also understand that if they abuse a privilege they may lose it until they have demonstrated self control. **Make sure you communicate your expectations ahead of time so they know what is expected.**

>> Target your instructions for independence – Encourage them to be **independent with accountability** to you for a while. They should be learning those areas that help them function successfully in the world both spiritual and non-spiritual. Spiritually, they should be prepared for the worlds values and know how to deal with those values and how to respond, both intellectually and with a proper attitude.

Transition:

**So what is our part for passing on spiritual convictions?**



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

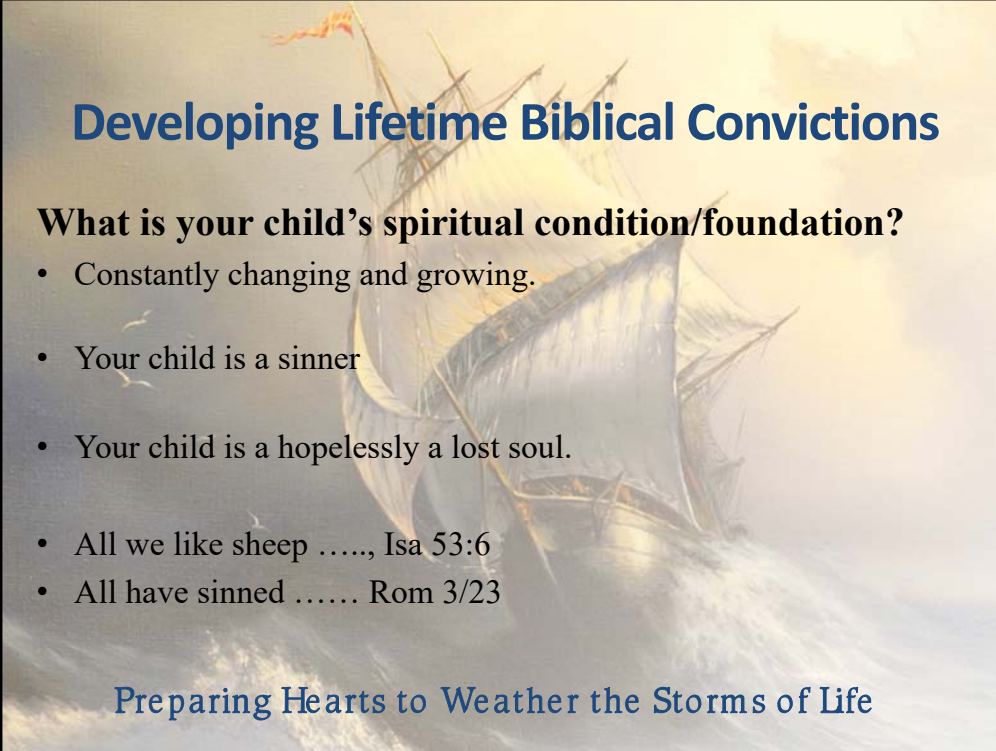
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Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

The next area is what I call the Spiritual Foundations because,

Your foundation determines what kind of house you can build.

Next Slide



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

**What is your child's spiritual condition/foundation?**

- Constantly changing and growing.
- Your child is a sinner
- Your child is a hopelessly a lost soul.
- All we like sheep ....., Isa 53:6
- All have sinned ..... Rom 3/23

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I have added his next section to the workshop because I am seeing it missed too many times due to improper presumptions about salvation

We have to understand the spiritual condition of our child especially their inherited condition. We have to understand that even though our child is changing constantly from birth to adulthood there is one issue that is consistent. I probably don't need to tell you this, but I am anyway. Your child is a sinner and was from the start. Without the Lord in their lives, they are hopelessly lost in sin. That is what the Bible tells us. Some say we come into the world with a clean slate; and in some areas maybe we do, but not in the area of sin. We don't have to teach them how to sin they come with that innate ability and left to their natural condition, their sin nature will bear the fruit of its kind.

Refs:

All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way – Isa 53:6  
For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God – Rom 3:23

**So, what do we know about that condition?**

**NEXT SLIDE**



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

### What is the impact of the sin nature?

- But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Cor 2:14
- Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor 5:17
- So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Rom 10:17

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### What does that mean about teaching biblical convictions?

#### Read Verses:

We must recognize that without Christ and the Lord's spirit to teach us and open our hearts and minds to the truths of God's word, we will not understand or see the value in filling our lives with a focus on pleasing the Lord according to His Word. It just won't happen. We might try to fit in to the social environment at church, but our underlying guide will be our sin nature. We might deceive some, but the Lord is not deceived.

Why? Because we become a different person when Christ is in our life and heart.

We must be born again just as Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3. So it is with your children.

Childhood Salvation:

WAS IT A GOOD BIRTH? I.e. was it a true heart decision or something else?

So, where do we start?

Romans 10:

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1 Corinthians 3:

<sup>7</sup> So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

#### NEXT SLIDE

Parable of the sower and the seed

John 15

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

### Where are we aiming? – Salvation

- Acknowledge God as our God and our Creator
- Understand that God as Righteous and Holy
- Recognize our sinfulness
- Recognize the consequences of our sin. Separation!
- Believe Jesus, God's only Son, paid for our sins on the cross
- Recognize our need for salvation and call on the Lord Jesus Christ for His salvation of our souls with a repentant and believing heart.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

**So, what is our primary objective for your child to begin learning biblical convictions? - Salvation**

#### What are the basic concepts involved in salvation?

- Acknowledge the God of the Bible is our God and our creator
- Recognize God as Righteous and Holy
- Recognize our sinfulness (Rom 3:23) (Teaching biblical standards will help)
- Recognize there are and should be consequences for our sin. (commission and/or omission) (It is a Heart Issue) (Rom 6:23) Normal discipline should teach them this principle.
- Recognize that the consequences of our sin is separation from God.
- Recognize that God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the consequences for our sin so that we could once again commune with the God.
- Recognize our separation and need then calling on the Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation. It is a free gift for those that recognize their sinfulness repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ's death as the atonement for our sin.

We must be born again just as Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3. So it is with your children.

Childhood Salvation:

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**So, where do we start?**

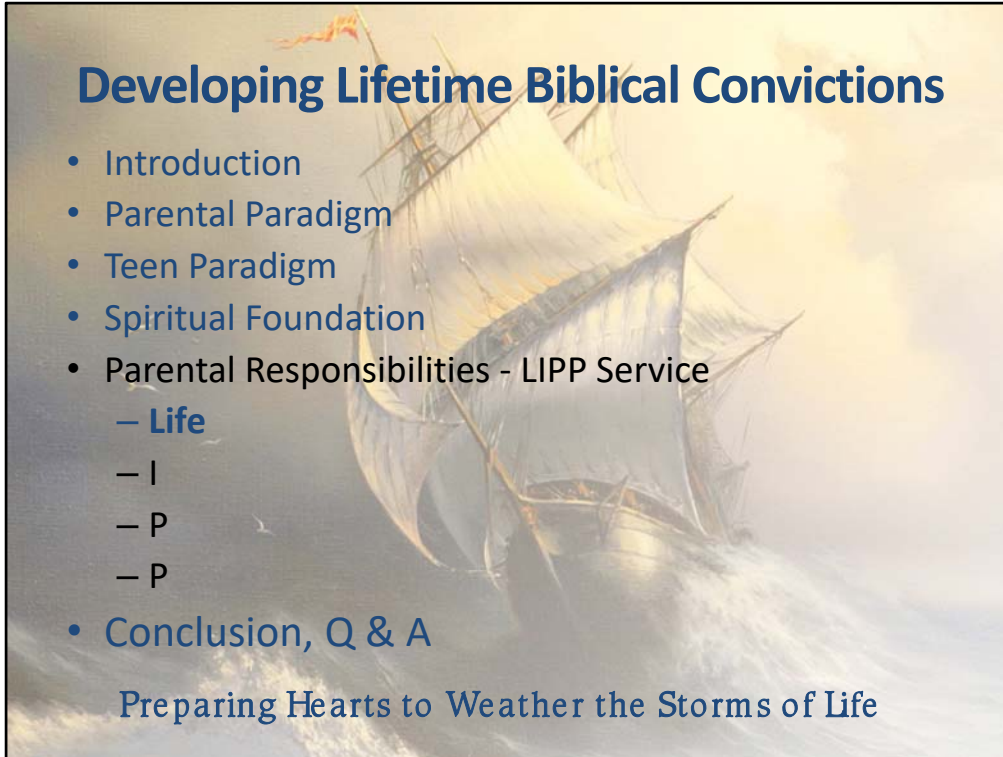
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  - Life
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Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

So how do we get them where they need to be?

I have outlined some of our **practical Biblical responsibilities** in an acronym I call LIPP Service.

Let's start in the OT

NEXT SLIDE



## Parental Responsibility

- **Basic Principles of Spiritual Training – Deut 6:4-7**

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup> And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

<sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

**Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life**

**That brings us to what the Lord tells us we should do to develop biblical convictions in our children.**

**That brings us to an acrostic I call LIPP Service.**

The L for Life, starts with the first two verses. These tell us the basic underlying spiritual principle that we must pass on to our children. The goal is that the Lord must be the priority of our life.

**Read the first two verses.**

This is the biblical standard!

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!

According to this verse, God's first requirement is that He is first?

Its simple, all means all ! And that is all all means !

**Lk 9:23, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily.**

So how do we teach this to our children?



## Parental Responsibility

### **Life: Your Life Must Reflect Proper Priorities**

#### **Language Example:**

The Child Development Institute indicates the following

vocabulary development in children:

- 18 months 5-20 words
- 24 months 150-300 words
- 36 months 900-1000 words

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Think about how you taught your child vocabulary?

#### **Talk about the slide**

**So, if the Lord has not been a priority in your life during their early years, you have probably already taught them it is not a priority for them as well. That means you have something to overcome besides their natural sin nature.**

The first requirement is for parents to set the proper example.

What is the example in Luke 10 Martha Martha vs Mary

# Parental Responsibility

## Life: Reflect a Proper Example

### Luke 10:38-42 – Martha and Mary

<sup>38</sup> Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. <sup>39</sup> And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.

<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

<sup>41</sup> And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things.

<sup>42</sup> But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

## Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Here is what I mean:

### Read the Slide

My first response...

Martha, Martha – Lk. 10:38-42 - Do you not **care**... The key is what we care about.

Martha Martha: Why is it that Martha made the wrong choice? What was she missing?

1. She did not understand who Jesus was. In 1:1-5 – Did she really understand who she was talking to?
2. She forgot or never knew how big God is
3. She forgot who Jesus was and was taking control instead of turning control over to the Lord and seeking Him first
4. Her care, priority, was messed up
5. Her serving may have been more of a distraction from His words to those listening.
6. She needed to let him be in control of the timing of being served. Those who came wanted and needed to hear Him!

Real as my hands and feet

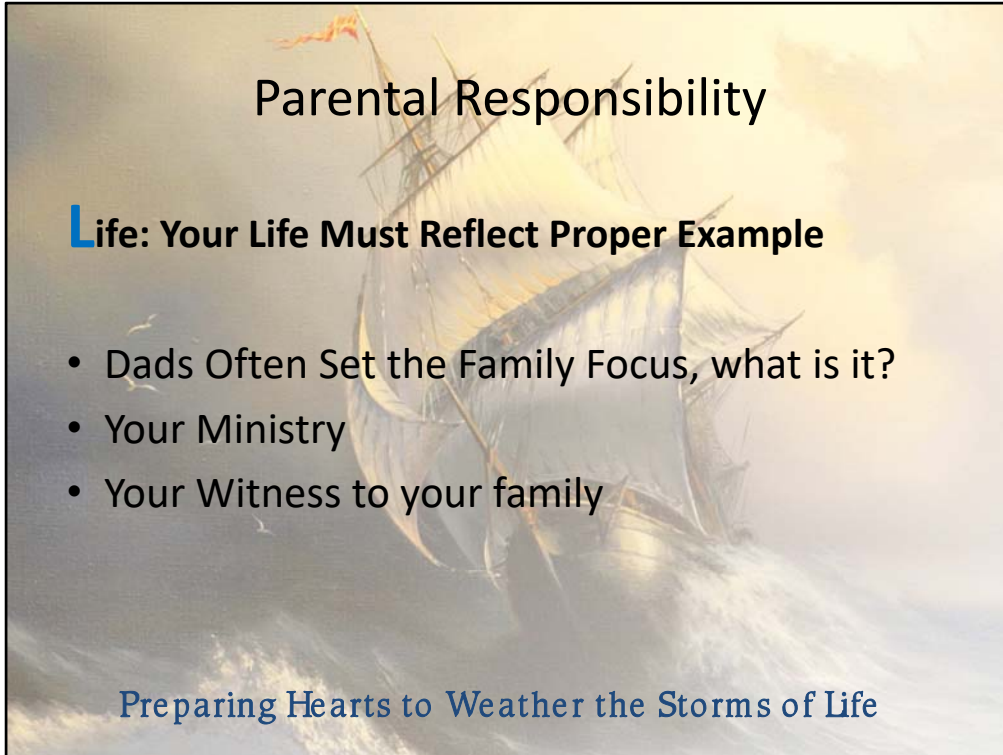
John

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend<sup>[a]</sup> it.

### John's Witness: The True Light

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. <sup>8</sup> He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. <sup>9</sup> That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to His own,<sup>[c]</sup> and His own<sup>[d]</sup> did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.



## Parental Responsibility

**L**ife: Your Life Must Reflect Proper Example

- Dads Often Set the Family Focus, what is it?
- Your Ministry
- Your Witness to your family

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Dads often set the family focus. Sports, fishing, computers... It is ok to enjoy these areas, they also serve to train our children to live in the world, however, our children need to see that although you enjoy these areas, your life's focus is the Lord.

They need to understand that these things come a distant second to your focus on the Lord and His service.

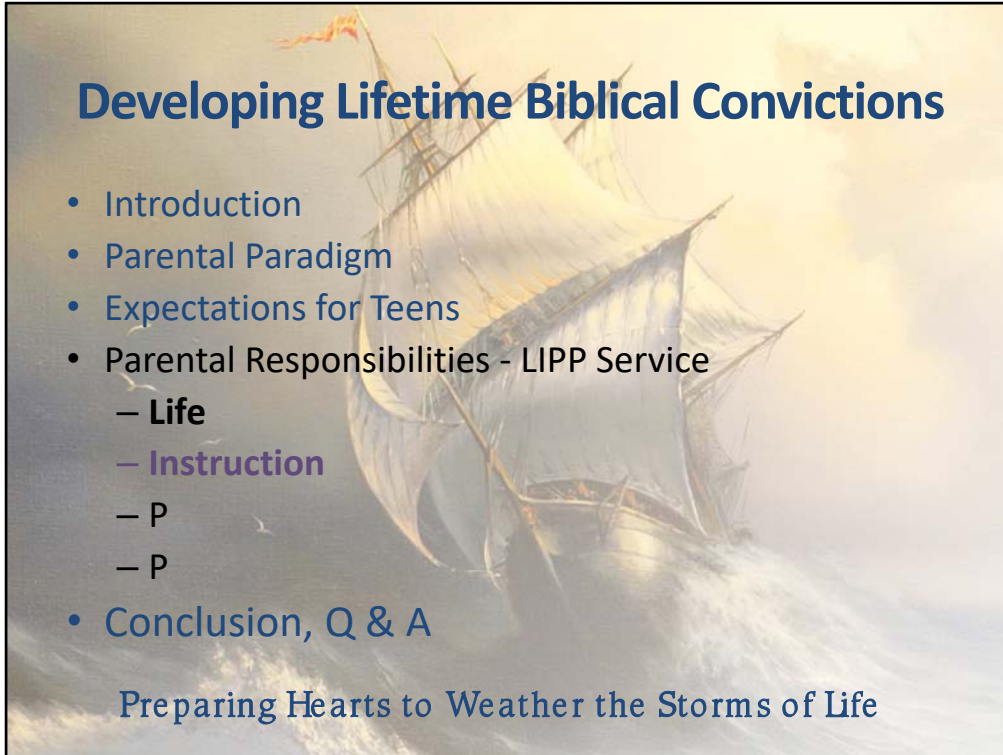
For instance, do your children ever catch you reading your Bible, just you and the Lord? Or praying?

Ministry - One of the key areas to show your commitment to Christ is to be involved in some kind of ministry. **James 2, Faith without works is dead.**

If you want to pass on spiritual convictions to your children, make sure they are alive in your own life. You can't pass on something you don't have.

Ministry also helps you grow and it holds you accountable. Often, ministry allows you to include your children as well. What does your ministry commitment communicate to your children about your commitment to the Lord?

If you were put on trial for being a Christian, would you be convicted? Most importantly, would your children convict you?



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Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

We are here at this homeschool convention and most of us are looking for materials that will help them achieve their academic goals for their children and that is OK. But what about our spiritual goals for our children? Are we seeking academic excellence and depending on the church for the spiritual aspect. That's what those college freshmen's parents did for them 30+ years ago and it didn't work then and it certainly won't work today.

The next area is Instruction.

NEXT SLIDE



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

### Instruction: Proverbs 2 Study

My son, if you receive my words,  
And treasure my commands within you,  
<sup>2</sup> So that you incline your ear to wisdom,  
*And* apply your heart to understanding;  
<sup>3</sup> Yes, if you cry out for discernment,  
*And* lift up your voice for understanding,  
<sup>4</sup> If you seek her as silver,  
And search for her as *for* hidden treasures;  
<sup>5</sup> Then you will understand the fear of the LORD,  
And find the knowledge of God.  
<sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom;  
From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding;

**Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life**

### To start,

I picked Proverbs 2 because it epitomizes the spiritual goal we should have for our children. And, rather than tell you what is here, I am going to give you a chance to let the Lord show you what needs to happen from your own brief time in this passage. So for the next 10 minutes I need you to work on the study in your handout. The Proverbs 2 passage is in your handout.

So how did you feel when I told you to do some work? Did you feel cheated? Did you expect me to give you some quick easy things to do to spiritually train your children?

So, How do we prepare them spiritually?

A while back, I went to a **Teach Them Diligently** homeschool conference.

### Next Slide

## Parental Responsibility

### Instruction:

#### Basic Principles of Spiritual Training – Deut 6:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!  
You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup> And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

<sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

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READ: What is them in this passage? God's Words

READ : And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

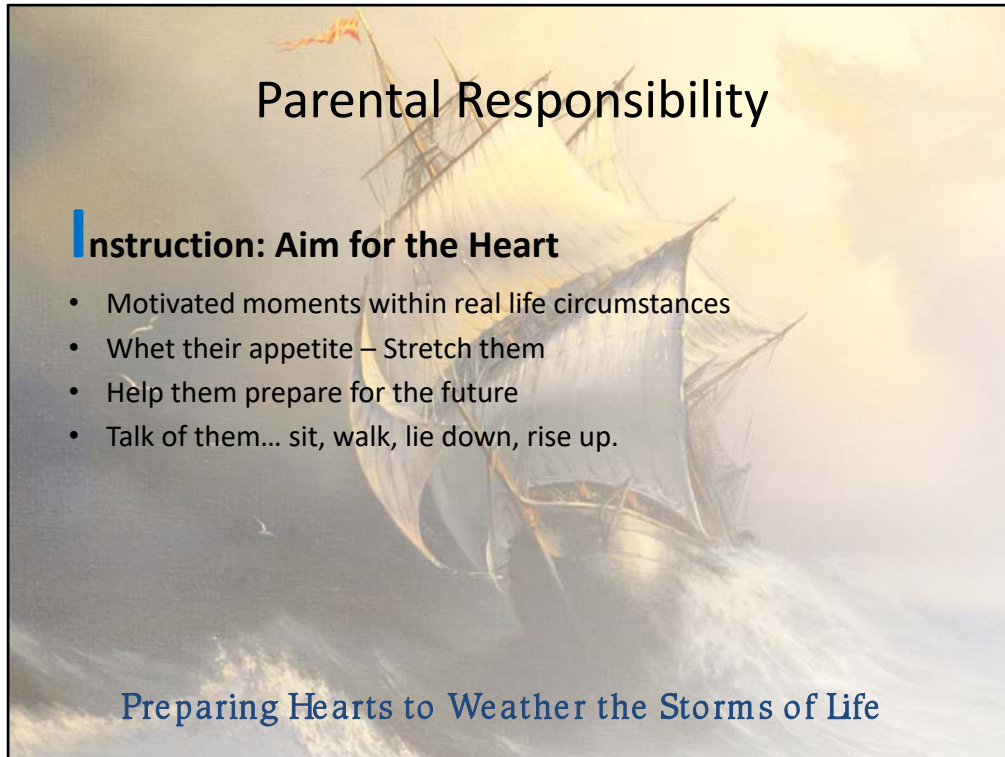
Notice it says heart, not head? Know why?

Ps 119: 9 & 11 How shall a young man cleans his way, by taking heed thereto according to thy word. Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against thee.

**It is what is in your heart that changes your life!**

Prov 23:

<sup>7</sup> For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he.



It says we are to aim for the heart. How do we do that?

... teach them diligently Deut. 6:7 - Make it relative to their life.

Look for motivated moments within real life circumstances - Remember when they were really young and liked to do certain chores they avoid now? Those areas still exist both in life skills and spiritual training. Think.

Whet their appetite. How? Stretch them. Get ahead of them in real life training. Get involved in their struggles and trials and encourage and exhort them. Look at Paul's letters and how he dealt with the existing challenges in the churches.

Talk about the challenges they will have now and will have in the future and discuss how the scriptures teaches us to respond.

Talk of them ... sit, walk, lie down, rise up. This is a combination of identifying the motivated moments, stretching them and talking through the issues and challenges as you join them in their struggles. Talk about these challenges as fellow travelers in a challenging world, not always having all the answers, but helping them discover the answers themselves.

Take time to think about these areas and discuss them with your spouse. Your children are worth it!

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## Parental Responsibility

### **I**nstruction: Aim for the Heart

#### **We must start by:**

- Spending time in the Scriptures ourselves
- Helping them spend time in the Scriptures
- Helping them learn how to interact with the Scriptures
- Helping them learn how to feed themselves
- Helping them not to rely on Borrowed Spirituality

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

So how do we aim for the heart?

**Borrowed Spirituality** - College Freshmen

**This is what Lamp & Quill Bible Curriculum is all about. We are not just filling their heads with information about the Bible.** Heart interaction is the focus of our Bible curriculum to help children see how the Scriptures interacts with their lives. It is also why all six years of our curriculum starts with Toddler and goes all the way through college adult so that the whole family can be in the same passage at the same time at their own age level.

**It is the saying give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime. !!**

Discuss the slide



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

- Introduction
- Parental Paradigm
- Expectations for Teens
- Parental Responsibilities - LIPP Service
  - Life
  - Instruction
  - **Protection**
  - P
- Conclusion, Q & A

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Now we move from the parental responsibility of instruction to the next parental responsibility: protection

NEXT SLIDE

## Parental Responsibility

### **P**rotection: Matt 7:13-14 - Straight and Narrow

<sup>13</sup>“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. <sup>14</sup> Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

<sup>15</sup> “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup> You will know them by their fruits.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

**For Protection, let’s start with Matt 7: 13-14**

**READ Verses**

**Circle of choices** in life, will you stay on course?!

Notice that it doesn’t say, be aware (passive), but beware (active)!

USS Huron?

Compass Systems – If your internal system is off 1 degree, the further you go the more you multiply that one degree error from your intended destination.

Scariest verse in the bible:

Matt 24:

<sup>5</sup> For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.



## Parental Responsibility

### **P**rotection: Ps 1:1, Watch your walk

Blessed *is* the man

- Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
- Nor stands in the path of sinners,
- Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

But his delight *is* in

- the law of the LORD, And
- in His law he meditates day and night.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

### **But Here is the Challenge**

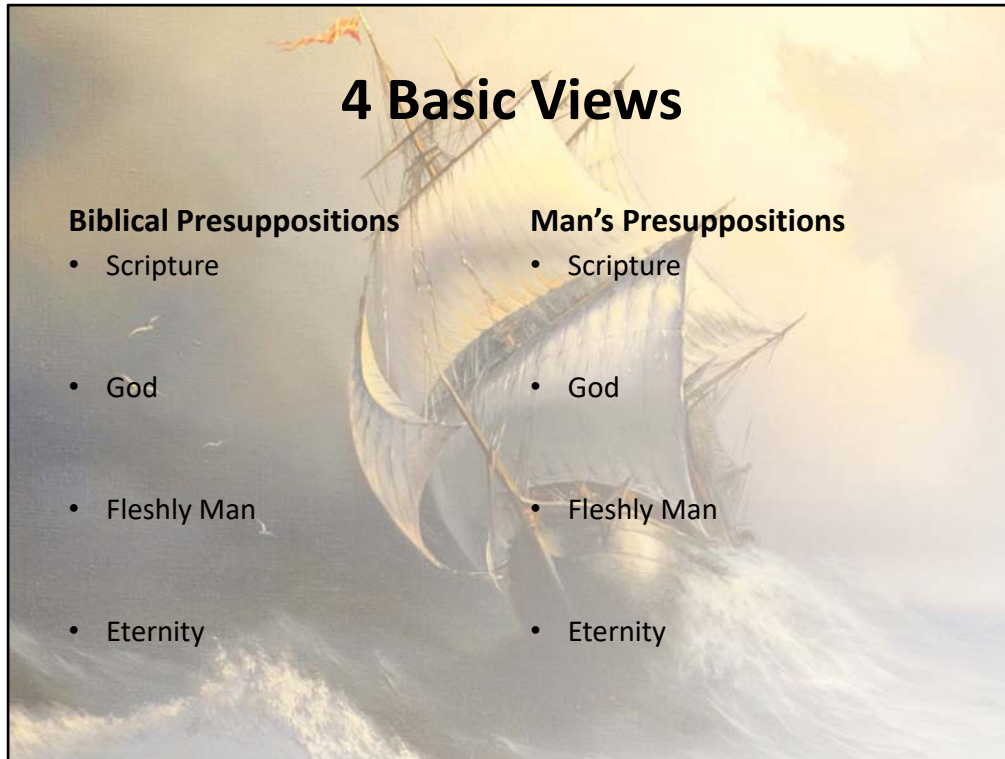
We all are constantly exposed to the world's values and beliefs; we cannot go to the grocery store, watch TV or commercials, everywhere we go we are constantly being exposed to the world's values and propaganda.

The question is how we deal with it? Will we choose the straight and narrow? Our kids will know what we choose. It will come out in our behavior to them and the world.

Hallmark movies: "I just want you to be happy"

### **Another question:**

**Are we so exposed to the world and it's thinking that we may not recognize when we have strayed from the truth?**



Lets talk about the different perspectives between the world, the counsel of the ungodly, and the biblical perspective. We are looking to establishing a benchmark. Look at page 4 in your handout.

If we are going to protect our children from the world's values, we must be acutely aware of the differences and how they play out.

Scripture:

- Inspired by God
- True from beginning to end
- Tells us about God & Jesus Christ
- Profitable for spiritual training
- Tells us how to live
- It is the primary way God speaks to us today

God:

- Father, Son & Holy Spirit
- Creator
- Master of the Universe
- Character - Holy, Loving, Merciful, Gracious, Hates Sin
- Knows everything we do and think
- Savior** – Jesus Died for our Sins
- Judge
- Who is in charge of the future?

Fleshly Man:

- Created by God
- Separated from God by Sin
- Condemned because of Sin
- Sinners by nature
- We have an eternal spirit or soul

Eternity:

- There is an eternity
- There is a Heaven
- There is a Hell
- God determined what happens in our eternity



## Beware of Wolves

### Matthew 7:15-20

<sup>15</sup> “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup> You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Now let’s take our focus off the world and look closer to us.

Read verse.

Notice that it does not say be aware, a passive word, but beware, an active word.

And we do that by constantly refreshing ourselves in God’s word.

Let’s look closely at other examples you may not be all familiar with.

# What Can a Preschool Child Learn?

FROM *THE WORLD IS ME* BY E. C. MURPHY. DAVID C. COOK PUBLISHING 1979, 1982

## About God?

God made all things.  
God made me.  
God loves me.  
God cares for me.  
God uses people to care for me.  
God is with me all the time.  
God hears me when I pray.  
God knows what is best for me.  
God is in Heaven.  
I can sing and talk to God.  
God forgives me when I am sorry.

## About Jesus?

Jesus is God's Son.  
God sent His Son to earth.  
Jesus was once a child, growing a  
other children do.  
Jesus is now in Heaven with God.

## About the Bible?

The Bible is a special Book.  
The Bible is God's Book.  
The Bible tells about God and Jesus.  
The Bible is a Book of true stories.  
The Bible tells me how to do right.

## About Pleasing God?

God wants me to be kind.  
God wants me to share.  
God wants me to love everyone.  
God wants me to obey my parents.  
God wants me to be a helper.

And more...

[About the Church?](#)

[About his Home](#)

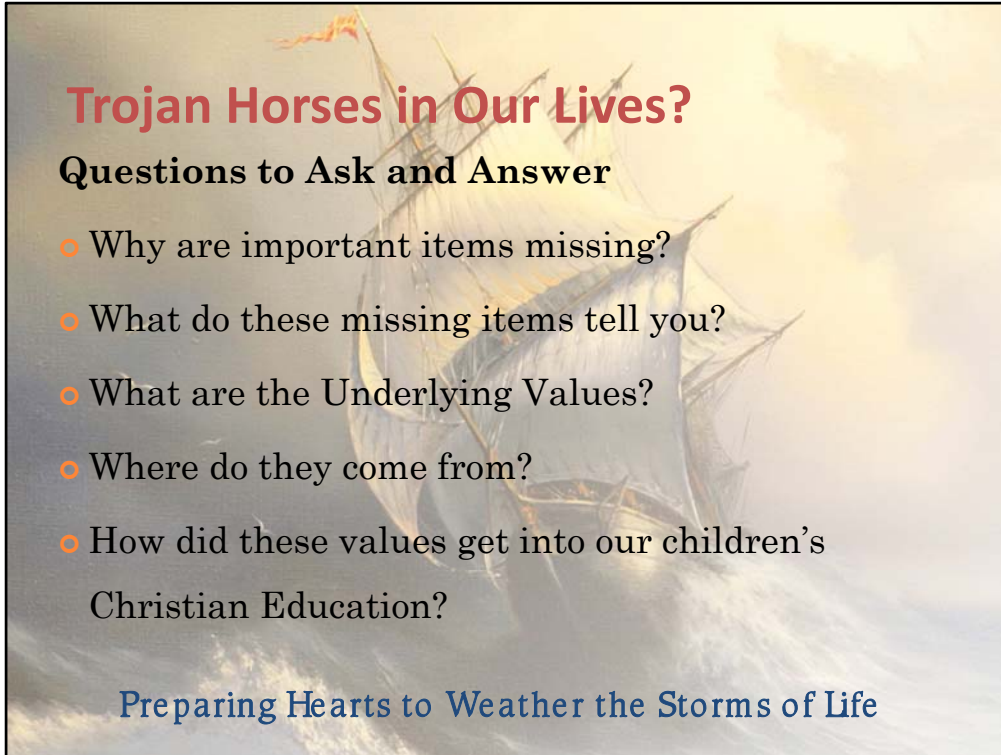
[About Reaching Others with the Gospel?](#)

**Now that we have explored the differences between lets look at some possible examples.**

### List:

Take a look at the list on page 3 of your notes and tell me whether this is what you want your children to know and believe in each of these areas. Especially think about the gospel and whether there is anything important left out about the gospel.

Let's look at an example. **The top of Page 3 in your hand out.**



## Trojan Horses in Our Lives?

### Questions to Ask and Answer

- Why are important items missing?
- What do these missing items tell you?
- What are the Underlying Values?
- Where do they come from?
- How did these values get into our children's Christian Education?

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

**List, Secular Influence in CE.** What is this List Teaching? How did this list get created? How do you get a decent doctrinal statement with content that does not match? Doctrinal Statement is by Biblical Scholars vs Content by Educational Specialists or Curriculum Experts, Psychologists, Sociologists: Trained by the world.

**So, How did we get here? –**

Problem is 3 vs 4 buckets. The world can only accept the physical, mental, emotional. They do not have a biblical spiritual bucket for interpreting observations because they have rejected God and Jesus Christ as God in the flesh.

1 Cor 2:14 – But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Fransis Shaffer used the word **Synthesis** – Describe. There is no synthesis with God's word, as soon as you compromise the truth, it is no longer truth. When we compromise with the truth, we compromise with the devil. You don't compromise with the devil.

**So, how do we deal with this?**

Matt 7:15-20 Describes what we are dealing with.



## Parental Responsibility

- **Instruction: Gen 3: 4-7 – Making the Right Choices**
- <sup>4</sup> Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
- <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

### Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Let's take a look at what could be another pervasive influence even here.

#### Begging the question story

What kind of wisdom are we seeking first for our children? What are the choices we are making in our search for training our children?

Eve made an academic decision 6000 + years ago. *<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.* Gen 3.

What kind of wisdom are we seeking first for our children? What are the choices we are making in our search for training our children?

#### Satan:

What was Satan's message? Disputed God's directive. So what should your response be if someone or some organization disputes God's Word?

#### Eve:

She was searching for wisdom over pleasing the Lord and was wiser after her poor choice, especially when she lost all she had in the garden. So what will we exchange in this life for the next? Will we hold on to this life and the world's promises and lose our children's place in eternity?

#### Adam:

I don't know where Adam was during this intercourse but if he was there what should he have done?

Scariest verse in the bible:

So are the choices we are making show we have the right priorities for what we are teaching our children?

Teach Them Diligently Conference – Who or what is “Them”

Lets look back at Deut 6: 4-7

### **Begging the Question or Circular Reasoning**

In philosophy or logic, it is a fallacious argument. Stated, it is a fallacy that attempts to prove something when it has first assumed some aspect necessary for the conclusion in the argument. Here is an example where we put all three of these concepts together:

Before I went back to college, I had been taught about the importance of presuppositions in what I was going to get from professors. It was a valuable concept for me to survive the views I was presented at a very liberal university. I had a professor in a logic class who had been a religion professor and acknowledged that he had become an **empiricist**. In other words, he had rejected anything he could not prove by his own observation and reasoning. i.e. Empirically.

We were taught types of arguments and types of fallacies. Sometimes in class we would sit in a circle and he would call on one of us to give an example of a fallacy he named. One time, I was asked to give an example of Begging the Question. **I said empiricism or Empirical Reasoning. He agreed. So, even though he was an empiricist, he agreed that it was based on a fallacious argument.**

**So, what was it that he had presumed in his belief in Empiricism that made it a fallacy?**

**The Answer:** The fallacy was that even though the empiricist's has limits of his intelligence, learning, observation skills, and authority, he is asking us to accept him as qualified to be sufficient proof of his conclusions about what is truth. His belief presumed that he was able and qualified to determine truth. That is the risk of relying on logic and debate. We aren't all knowing. Jesus said in John 1: 18 "No one has **seen God** at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*."

**NEXT SLIDE**

# Protection: Beware of Wolves

## How do we Detect Counterfeits

- Know the Scriptures
- Chewing Gum on the Telephone Pole
- Philosophy – The Trojan Horse in Christian Education
- Creation vs Evolution and Its Impact
- Know about the End Times
- Types of Arguments and Fallacies
- Encourage involvement with other godly men, women or groups

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

### Know your Bible

Counterfeit Detection & Ps 1: 2&3

40 to 50 new religions are started every year. Any one of them could cause our children to lose their way. Be grounded in the Scriptures. That is the main reason we have written Lamp & Quill Curriculum. We want them to really know the Scriptures. We want God's Word to be in both their thinking and in their hearts.

Matt 24:

<sup>5</sup>For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

### Chewing Gum on the Telephone Pole

### Philosophy & Education

The Trojan Horse in Christian Education by Mike & Carolyn Riggs

### Creation vs Evolution and its impact

In Six Days edited by John F Ashton PhD

Documentary - Expelled, No Intelligence Allowed – Ben Stein

ICRs - Morris or Answers In Genesis - Ken Ham's

### End Times

For many will come in my name ... Matt 24:5, Mk 13:6, Lk 21:8 – **Scariest verse in the Bible?**

Commentary on Revelation and Daniel Prophecies, Because the Time is Near by MacArthur.

### Psychology

Worldly Psychologist: Freud, Skinner, Maslow, Rogers, etc, etc.

Suggested readings:

"Seeing with New Eyes: Counseling and the Human Condition Through the Lens of Scripture"

by David Powlison;

"Christian Psychology's War On God's Word: The Victimization Of The Believer"

by Jim Owen

**Types of Arguments**, Fallacies of Evasion, Procedural Fallacies (Google "Types of Arguments"), Demagoguery

**Let them be or encourage them to be involved with other godly men or women or groups** that will pass on proper values and teaching



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

- Introduction
- Parental Paradigm
- Expectations for Teens
- Parental Responsibilities - LIPP Service
  - Life
  - Instruction
  - Protection
  - **Prayer**
- Conclusion, Q & A

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

The next area is Prayer

NEXT SLIDE

# Parental Responsibility

## Prayer

- Jesus prayed for us and His Disciples, John 17:15
- Our prayer life reflects our true faith
- We are told to put our care on Him in prayer, Phil 4:6
- The Lord Answers Prayer

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Jesus gave us an example when He prayed for us and His disciples. John 17:

**If it was important for Jesus to pray, it is absolutely important for you to pray.**

Our prayer life reflects our true faith. If we truly believe that the Lord hears and is able and willing to answer prayer as His Word says, then we would spend much more time in prayer.

Ps 127: 1-3

Unless the LORD builds the house,  
They labor in vain who build it;  
Unless the LORD guards the city,  
The watchman stays awake in vain.  
<sup>2</sup> *It is vain* for you to rise up early,  
To sit up late,  
To eat the bread of sorrows;  
*For so He gives His beloved sleep.*

John 17:

<sup>9</sup> "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. <sup>10</sup> And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, <sup>12</sup> that they may be one as We are. <sup>13</sup> While I was with them in the world, <sup>14</sup> I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; <sup>15</sup> and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>16</sup> But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. <sup>17</sup> I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>18</sup> I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. <sup>19</sup> They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>20</sup> Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. <sup>21</sup> As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>22</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.



## Parental Responsibility

Philippians 3:13 & 14

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life



# Develop Lifetime Biblical Convictions

**Mike Riggs**

**Friday, 5:30**

**Room 102**

**GHC March 8, 2019**

**Lamp & Quill Bible Curriculum: Booth 528**

**slides and handout: [lampquill.com](http://lampquill.com)**

Website for notes

There is huge difference between Bible Curriculums in terms of what they are trying to accomplish. Most are trying to fill their heads with knowledge about our faith. That is not the purpose of the scriptures. It's purpose is to commune with the Lord. To learn to love and walk in a manner well pleasing to the Lord. To teach us to love the idea of spending an eternity with the Lord. To help us make Him as real as our hands and feet.

That is the objective of the Lamp & Quill Bible Curriculum and we have the testimony of many who have used it to tell us that it accomplishes these purposes. It is truly unique in that way.

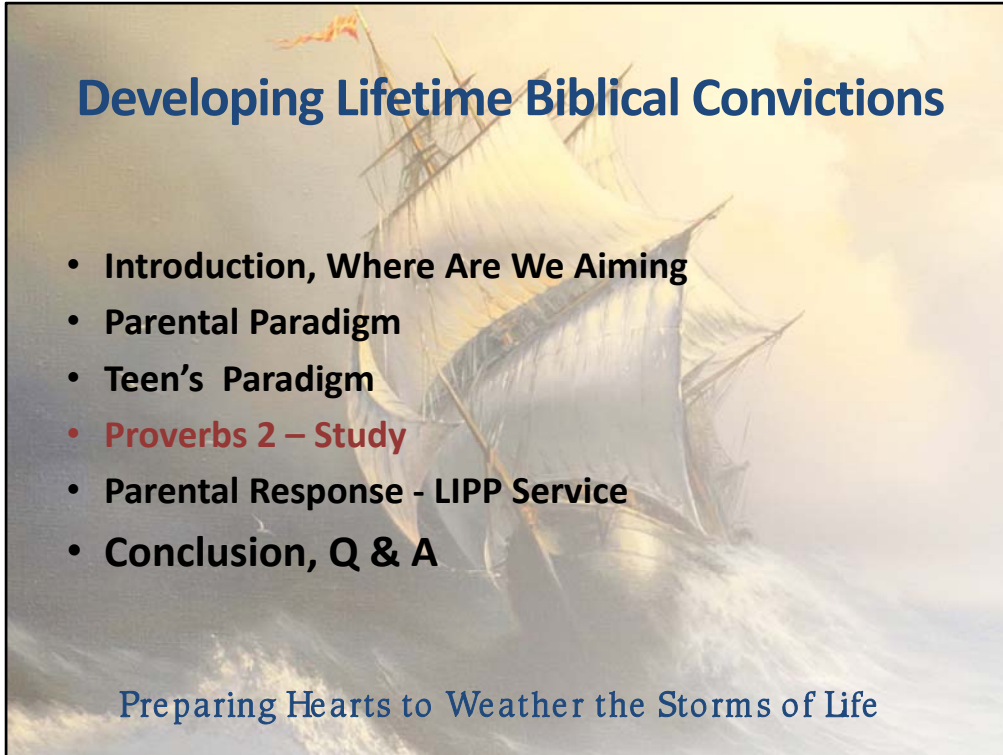
Come see us at booth: 528

Cartoons

Pray

Parachute joke: Don't let our children bail out of our homes with secular parachutes but spiritual backpacks.

THE END



## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

- Introduction, Where Are We Aiming
- Parental Paradigm
- Teen's Paradigm
- **Proverbs 2 – Study**
- Parental Response - LIPP Service
- Conclusion, Q & A

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

### **Proverbs 2 Study**

So I am not going to tell you how to plant and water, I am going to show you then we talk about about what has happened.

This is a workshop which means you get to work too. So for the next 10 minutes I need you to do some work.

I have picked a chapter in Proverbs that describes what you want to see happen in you children and your working through it will show you what needs to happen to your children.

So turn to the lesson in your handout and spend the next ten minutes working on the passage. The passage is in your handout as well.

Remember the College Freshmen? They may have been ready academically for college, but not spiritually. How you respond in the next 10 minutes will reveal to you one of the reasons why they ended up that way.

I picked Proverbs 2 because it epitomizes the spiritual goal we should have for our children. And, rather than tell you what is here, I am going to give you a chance to let the Lord show you what needs to happen from your own brief time in this passage. So for the next 10 minutes I need you to work on the study in your handout. The Proverbs 2 passage is in your handout.

### **After Study**

So how did you feel when I told you to do some work? Did you feel cheated? Did you expect me to give you some quick easy things to fix the spiritual training of your children? From Prov 2, is it going to be quick and easy?

So, How do we prepare them spiritually?

### **Next Slide**

Start Now

Be prepared to talk about what you have seen from your time in the passage.





## Developing Lifetime Biblical Convictions

- **Parental Paradigm**
- **Expectations for Teens**
- **Our Responsibilities - LIPP Service**
  - Life
  - Instruction
  - Protection
  - Prayer
- **Conclusion, Q & A**
- **Review - Cartoons**

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Cartoons

Pray

THE END



## Spiritual Rules - Protection

### Protection: Straight and Narrow

#### Matthew 7:13-14

<sup>13</sup>“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

<sup>14</sup> Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

<sup>15</sup> “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

<sup>16</sup> You will know them by their fruits.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Let’s look at a passage that describes the direction we want to go. Mt 7:13 & 14

Circle of choices in life, our goal is to teach our children to make the right choices and to know when they are being led astray.

Our life can be like the **USS Huron**

It is important for everyone to learn to constantly adjust to stay on course and to recognize those that would lead us astray.

**Part of protecting our life choices is to keep foreign objects out of our decisions. It is like the Trojan Horse which was used to protect them for 9 years from the Greeks until they let a small group inside their walls and resulted in their destruction in one night.**

So the question is how do we get through the narrow gate?

#### **STOP**

B52 guidance. Just like that old ship, aircraft still use a compass system. For example the B52 in long journeys over 1000s of miles with refueling it used an Astrotracker that looked to the stars for directional correction. We have to do the same thing. Our compass system is compromised by our human nature and ignorance that is why we have to constantly look to the Heavens for God’s guidance in His Word.



## Dealing with Trojans

### Matthew 7:21-23

<sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

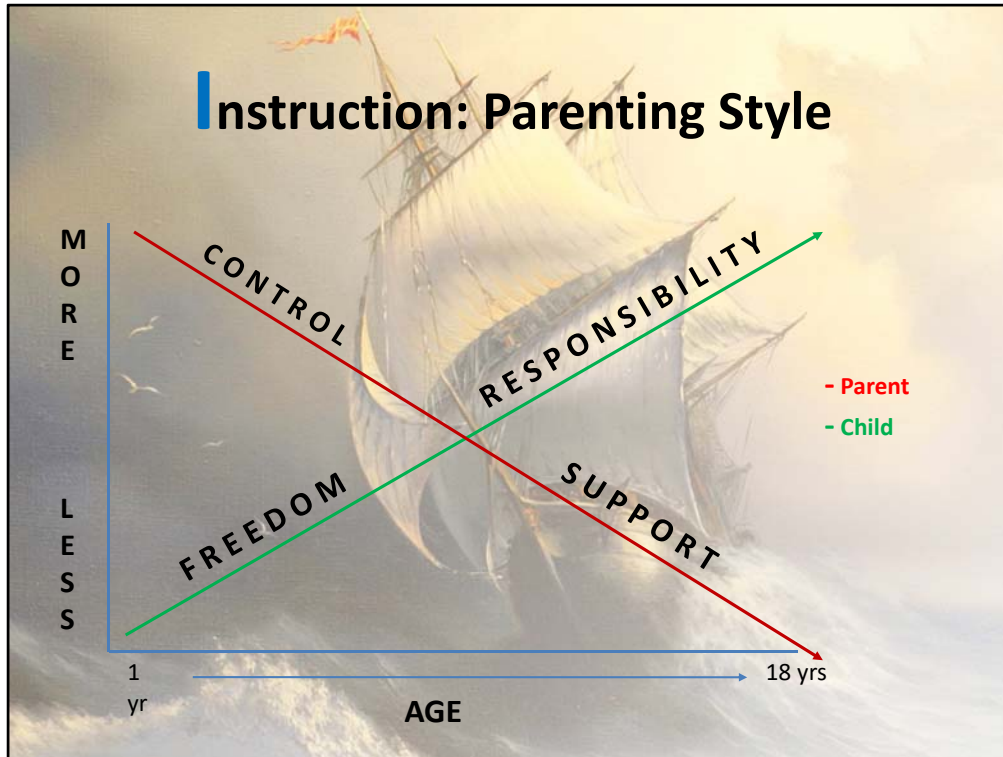
Matt 7: 21-23

*<sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”*

When that time comes, those people will find out too late that they had a disastrous presupposition about what God wants, and it will cost them for eternity. Our presuppositions are very important and impacts how we live and what we say or teach.

When that time comes, those people will find out too late that they had a disastrous presupposition about what God wants, and it will cost them for eternity. Our presuppositions are very important and impact how we live and what we say or teach.

**NEXT SLIDE**



Encourage progressively earned freedoms & responsibility: As they are ready give them freedom to make their own choices, but teach them to talk through their decisions by asking what their thinking is.

Shift control to your child before you lose it to them. Don't block their maturing or give them complete freedom before they are responsible enough to handle it.

The key is to maintain the right balance of freedom and control. But your aim is to teach them how to use their freedom while they are still in your home. We want them to become wisely and biblically self reliant.

Adjust your parenting style to accommodate spiritual growth.

Progressively give your control and teach them to be self sufficient.

So, give your child freedom within bounds when you can. It is with freedom that opportunities for training arise. All freedom is within bounds. Even God's freedom is bounded by His character of love, holiness, righteousness, justice, etc. etc. And that is a key point; our job is to help them learn to be free within the bounds of a love for God and man as guided by the Scriptures.

### Next Slide

#### Skills:

- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Sensitivity to others needs

#### Freedom:

- Wisdom – Making good choices
- Honesty
- Self Control
- Accountability
- Desire to Do what is right

# Instruction – Parenting Styles

<p><b>Approximate Ages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infant</li> <li>• Preschooler</li> <li>• Preschooler/Grade School</li> <li>• Grade School/Teen</li> <li>• Teen</li> <li>• Independent</li> </ul>	<p><b>Parenting Style</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Control &amp; Provider</li> <li>• Dictator/Teacher/Provider</li> <li>• Guide/Teacher-Mentor/Provider</li> <li>• Counselor/Guide/Provider</li> <li>• Fellow Traveler/Counselor</li> <li>• Release (On their own)</li> </ul>
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**Romans 7: 14 – 24**                      **Gal 3: 24**  
**I see a law in my members...**        **The law is our tutor to bring us to Christ**

**Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life**

Discuss these levels.

Our style of parenting needs to fit where the child is and where we want them to go. It is not an all control or no control Both our parenting and our teaching styles should change **based on maturity not age.**

**Preschooler:**

For instance, at the preschool age, we have to dictate what they do, but we can start teaching them to do things on their own and to make wise decisions. Our teaching initially takes the form of providing instruction. But once they have been instructed, we need to have them stop and think about what they are doing or the choices they are making and evaluate how it aligns with our instructions. Ask them why they are making the choices they are making.

Our objective should be to teach our children to stop and think about what they are doing. They need to get off of automatically doing whatever they feel like doing and consider what should be done. Being considerate of others, doing what they are supposed to do, doing what is best. We all need to ask that question of what is best.

This will not come naturally. You are going to have to stop them in their tracks from acting instinctively to consider the direction and motivation for their actions. When you ask them why they did that and they say “**I don’t know**” That is a motivated opportunity to teach them about their sin nature and it’s consequences.

Paul describes this in Romans 7: The children need to learn to differentiate how their natural tendencies differ from God’s standards. Romans 7: excerpts

<sup>14</sup> For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup> For what I am doing, I do not understand.

<sup>18</sup> For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

<sup>21</sup> I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. <sup>23</sup> But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

<sup>24</sup> O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

**Practical Examples:**

Conflict – Sit on the sofa together until they can work it out and come tell us what happened and why

Go to the room until they can tell us what happened and what they did wrong and what they should have done.