

Families In Focus "Do Not Sin Against The Child (2)"

Introduction: 1.

- 1. Who we are today has much to do with who our parents were yesterday.
- 2. Seldom will a nation, a church, or an individual rise above its leaders.
- 3. Children are a heritage of God (Psalm 127:3).
- 4. In the last lesson, we talked about the need to teach our children honesty, reverence and respect, and to discipline your children in love.
- 5. This lesson identifies a few more things we owe our children.

I. We Owe Our Children Unconditional Love

- A. Failing to love our children unconditionally perverts their view of God's love for them (1 John 3:1; Psalm 103:13).
- B. Love your children equally (Jacob & Esau; Joseph; Isaac & Ishmael).
- C. Many parents do not love their children (Romans 1:31).

II. We Owe Our Children Time And An Example

- A. Learning is so much easier when we can see an example.
- B. They need to be shown, not just told how to live.
- C. Children need both quality time as well as quantity time with their parents.

III. We Owe Our Children Spiritual Development

- A. Our children are eternity bound beings (Ecclesiastes 12:7).
- B. They need to be taught God's word (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:4).
- C. Our children need to know about:
 - 1. Heaven & Hell.
 - 2. Sin & its consequences.
 - 3. Christ & His church.
- D. Our children need to be taught to love God with all their heart not for what He's done or for what He'll do, but just for being who He is.

Conclusion:

- 1. None of us want to be guilty of putting a stumbling block in the way of our child's eternal salvation (Mark 9:42).
- 2. But such can happen if we do not take our role as parents seriously.
- 3. Do not sin against the child, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.