

To Instruct, Discipline, and Train

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What does Wisdom say about parenting?

Psalm 127:3–5

³ Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.

⁵ Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

We instruct, discipline, and train our children because they lack wisdom.

Proverbs 22:15

¹⁵ Folly is bound up in the heart of a child,
but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.

We are to give verbal instruction to our children covering all aspects of life.

Deuteronomy 6:6–7

⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You 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.

Instruction and training are like planting seeds in our children's hearts; discipline is the weeding of that garden.

Proverbs 13:24

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

Proverbs 19:18

¹⁸ Discipline your son, for there is hope;
do not set your heart on putting him to death.

To train is to teach a skill or way of thinking, through practice and instruction, over a longer period of time.

Proverbs 22:6

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.