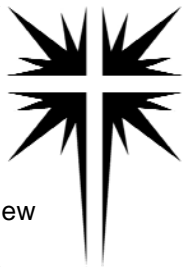


SESSION 1 – “Pure Hearts”



- I. INTRODUCTION: PURE HEARTS WILL CONSTANTLY SEE GOD WORKING (Psalm 46:10; Matthew 5:6, 8)
- A. Jesus prayed for our _____ (John 17:17), as we daily are exposed to an impure world.
 - B. He knew what would bring a hedge of holy protection (Job 1; John 17:15)
 - C. Are you daily living under the _____ of His holy grace (Psalm 91:1-2)?
- II. INSTRUCTION: “THUS SAITH THE LORD” (Psalm 127:1)...regarding protection (“watchman”)
- A. Be teachable to be an effective watchman who is wise in heart!
 - 1. Pray for a teachable heart of discernment – (Philippians 1:9-11)
 - 2. Parenting **MUST** follow biblical patterns, discarding preconceived _____ (Ro. 14; 2 Tim. 1:13-14)
 - 3. Cf. Isaiah 48:17-18...God will lead humble hearts on narrow paths well protected...His bountiful blessings keep on “rolling on”...
 - B. Be cautious
 - 1. Fleishy personal “feelings”, fostered by our carnal world will destroy our children, as we let our feelings seduce our faith (Isaiah 50:10-11)
 - 2. Cf. Colossians 2:8...
 - 3. God has a holy blueprint for homes (Ephesians 4-6), so we are _____ equipped for the tasks (2 Timothy 3:16)
 - C. Be strong
 - 1. Grace will abound to the faithful as parenting is hard work (2 Tim. 2:1-2)
 - 2. Have a backbone of steel, and a heart of loving velvet..._____! – (Isaiah 40:11)
 - D. Be fruitful
 - 1. Roots must go deep to bear abundant fruit (John 15; Colossians 2:6-7)
 - 2. Ask God to _____ from your heart damaging concepts of parenting (Ps. 90:12, 17)
 - 3. “The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree”- (Galatians 6:7)
 - E. Be consistent
 - 1. Be Jesus with skin on (I John 2:6; 4:17)
 - 2. Perfect love is a life _____ process of faith (Hebrews 11:1)
 - F. Be goal oriented
 - 1. Be sure your kids know _____ what you expect (“thus saith the Lord”), or you will exasperate them
 - 2. Boundaries build biblical bonding, so kids know where they are safe and secure
 - 3. **REMEMBER** our kids are on a learning curve (Proverbs 20:11)...check for fruit (Matthew 7:16)

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4. Write out weekly measurable goals; monthly, yearly...but avoid legalism!
- G. Be faithful
1. Full of truth (John 8:31-32); God sets you free from unbiblical beliefs/behaviors
 2. Hypocrisy is _____ (Proverbs 11:9)...to neighbors and family (light?)
- H. Be like-minded...parents MUST be on the same page!!!
1. Find other godly parents who have biblical standards, for loving accountability (Proverbs 27:17)
 2. We need each other to help us remember the path (Hosea 4:6) prayerfully!
 3. Application: Willful ignorance destroys families
- I. Be honest
1. "I'm sorry"...integrity builds _____ (David & Jonathan)
 2. God blesses honest hearts that apply truths learned from mistakes (Prov. 22:17)
 - a. Parenting patterns change?!?
 - b. Cf. 2 Peter 3:18
- III. INSIGHT: KEY VERSES OF APPLICATION AND REFLECTION (COLOSSIANS 2:8)
- A. Proverbs 22:6...this IS NOT a promise, but a general statement of practical truth
1. Train up a child
 - a. Learning _____ based on spiritual feeding patterns (1 Pet. 1:23)
 - b. Light dispels darkness (sin) (Psalm 18:28)
 - c. Midwife ...to touch the palate, olive oil – honey – crushed dates
 - d. _____, no one else, are responsible to create appetite (Jer. 15:16)
 2. A child
 - a. While the clay is soft...tasted (1 Peter 2:2)?
 - b. Discipline is key (Hebrews 12:6)...proof of _____ (OK to sin?!)
 3. In THE way
 - a. Absolute truth develops moral character and common sense (2 Timothy 3:15)
 - b. Jn. 14:6; Ps. 119:25-32...God enlarges hearts of teachable people
 4. He should go
 - a. Each child has a "bent"...compliant...strong-willed?
 - b. _____ nature (Proverbs 22:15a; Jeremiah 17:9)
 5. When he is old
 - a. An elder in the Hebrew culture (40 yrs. old)...the BEGINNING of wisdom years
 - b. Long process..._____! (parenting doesn't EVER stop!)
 6. Not depart from it (James 1:21)



- a. Godly parents using godly training techniques should see results...
- b. This is not a _____ a wayward teen will return to his "roots"
- c. Incorruptible seeds should bear incorruptible fruits (prodigal)

B. Ephesians 6:1-2a

- 1. Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right (righteous)
 - a. God expects _____ obedience...ears to hear...(gospel of Mark – "immediately"!)
 - b. Attitudes precede actions...respect for God-given authority is KEY!...
- 2. Honor!!!
 - a. Means give weight to what they say
 - b. Listen closely, out of deep _____
 - c. Parents are the "heavy"...God ordained influence to prepare the day kids submit to God; father is foreshadowing of...

C. Matthew 15:4

- 1. Curseth
 - a. Esteem lightly
 - b. Not listen to
 - c. Death to the child...OT! (theocracy – God King!)
- 2. Humble, holy hearts _____ to the right voices (Matthew 15:9-10)

D. Deuteronomy 6:4-9

- 1. Hearts full of love come from hearts full of prayer (Jeremiah 29:11-13)
- 2. Diligently disciplined parents raise godly children (Hebrews 11:6)... rewards! (enjoy your children?)
- 3. Our homes must be Christ-centered, not just _____ (Joshua 24:15), totally dependent on Him (Acts 17:27-28), without Him we do nothing (John 15) and are nothing
 - a. His Word must be the _____ of our lives and conversations (Matt. 12:34)
 - b. Carpe diem...always be ready to teach our kids about the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23)
 - i. Public schools!
 - ii. Cf. 1 Pet. 3:15
 - c. Homework...look up and discuss as a couple...family
 - i. Proverbs 10:1; 17:21, 25; 23:24; 29:15, 17; 31:28
 - ii. Write some measurable goals based on these verses
 - iii. Plan and write a practical strategy for mutual accountability as a couple to become more godly parents, grandparents

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