

Parenting by the Word

VISION

Isaiah 46:9,10

“...for I am God...declaring the end from the beginning...”

To be a successful parent, you must have a vision for what you are doing. You need to see, as God does, the end product.

So what is a good vision?

Luke 2:52

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”

I believe we could say that Jesus grew mentally (wisdom), physically (stature), spiritually (favor with God) and socially (favor with man).

TRAINING

Proverbs 22:6

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

So we are to train our children mentally, physically, spiritually and socially so that they will continue in those ways in a Godly manner all of their lives.

I believe there are five components to training:

Exemplify—Make sure you are living the concept.

Inform—Explain what the proper behavior is. Give scripture references (in simple form).

Instruct—Tell them what you expect them to do, how you expect them to behave.

Evaluate—Observe their actions. See where they need improvement or instruction.

Involve—Give ‘hands-on’ instruction and directions.

Remember that repetition is the price of education (and *educating!*). Your children will probably not remember things the first time through...or the second, or the third, etc.! You must be willing as a parent to go through this process as many times as possible until they are proficient in the concept—just as God does with us.