

KINGDOM LAWS ON RAISING CHILDREN

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Proverbs 22:6

There isn't a blueprint on how to raise children. However, there is a guaranteed **METHOD** on which to raise children. A blueprint is a guide on how to do something. A method is a **WAY** in which to do something.

A blueprint is detailed, specific and defined. A method is an outline for which the details need to be plugged in. The reason there isn't a blueprint on how to raise children is because every child is different.

However, the method in which to raise children can be applicable to **ALL** children. There are two methods to utilize when you are raising children. The first method is **TRAINING** and the second method is **TEACHING**.

Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train children to live the right way, and when they are old, they will not stray from it."

Exodus 18:20 says, "Warn them about the laws and teachings, and teach them the right way to live and what they should do."

WHEN SHOULD YOU TRAIN YOUR CHILDREN?

Training is when someone **TELLS** you what to do. When a parent tells their child what to do they are instilling values, ethics and qualities that will stay with them forever. The purpose of training is to produce **HABITS** that will become second nature.

The habits a child develops will follow them for the majority of their life. Children under the age of twelve **DO NOT** need understanding. They need discipline and good habits.

The habits they establish in their early years will guide them in their teen years. **TWELVE** is the age that a child goes from adolescence to a teenager.

Training prepares you for battle. Training prepares you for testing. During a child's early and middle childhood years you are training them to respect authority so they will know how to honor protocol. You are training your children to be honest so they will live with integrity when they are older.

You are training your children to be responsible so they will know how to manage what is given to them when they are older. You get the point. Whatever you are training your children to do or be is setting a **FOUNDATION** for them to stand on when they get older.

**CHILDREN ARE MEANT TO BE TRAINED.
TEENAGERS ARE MEANT TO BE TAUGHT.**

WHEN SHOULD YOU TEACH YOUR CHILD?

Children should receive teaching when they turn **TWELVE** years old. When Jesus was twelve years old He was sitting with the teachers of the Temple, listening and asking them questions. At twelve years old Jesus was gathering **UNDERSTANDING**.

Luke 2:41-51 says, "Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. When he was twelve years old, they went to the feast as they always did. After the feast days were over, they started home. The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Thinking that Jesus was with them in the group, they traveled for a whole day. Then they began to look for him among their family and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him there.

After three days they found Jesus sitting in the Temple with the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. All

who heard him were amazed at his understanding and answers. When Jesus' parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why did you do this to us? Your father and I were very worried about you and have been looking for you."

Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand the meaning of what he said. Jesus went with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. But his mother kept in her mind all that had happened."

At twelve years old children are mentally ready to comprehend what they were trained to do. The only time Jesus childhood was mentioned in the Bible was when He was twelve years old. Why? Because the Bible wants us to know the proper age for children to be taught.

When your child turns twelve years old you should make the transition from training to teaching. Teaching is when someone **EXPLAINS** something to you. The purpose of

teaching to strengthen your ability in making righteous decisions.

Explanations are needed when decisions need to be made. Children under twelve years old should not be making decisions. When a child turns twelve, teaching them the difference between right and wrong increases their understanding and strengthens their wisdom to **CHOOSE** wisely.

The Bible says a child will not depart from the ways they have been trained, **NOT** taught. Habits stay with a child forever. However, Understanding makes a child **ACCOUNTABLE** and **RESPONSIBLE**.

When a child matures in understanding they are now responsible and accountable to God to do what is right. They are held accountable for sinning. They are rewarded if they do what is righteous. When a child matures in understanding they are no longer under the covering of

their parents as it pertains to choosing what is right and wrong.

Maturing in understanding does not mean you will comprehend everything. It means you are **ACCOUNTABLE** for your choices.

If you **TRAIN** your children from infancy to twelve years old in the ways of the Lord, God will be pleased. If you **TEACH** them from twelve years old and beyond in the ways of the Lord, God will be pleased.

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