

## **"How Good Families Go Bad"**

### **IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK:**

#### **ELI: BLOOD IS THICKER THAN SPIRIT**

1 Samuel 2:12-36, 3:13

#### **SAMUEL: MISSED IT BY THAT MUCH**

1 Samuel 8:1-5

#### **DAVID: PAY NOW OR PAY LATER**

2 Samuel 13:21-29, 1 Kings 1:5-8

### **4 MYTHS OF GODLY PARENTS:**

Malachi 4:5-6, Luke 1:16-17, Proverbs 13:24, 19:18, 22:6, Colossians 3:20-21, Ephesians 6:1-4, Hebrews 12:10-11, Ezekiel 18

- ▶ Going to **church** produces **spirituality**.
- ▶ Kids need to make their **own choices**.
- ▶ Sunday's message will trump **Friday's message**.
- ▶ Great kids naturally come from **good homes**.

## Food for Thought

For the week of July 5, 2009

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

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**Note to those who aren't in a parenting role:** These questions are written in the context of parenting, but many of the answers also apply to other significant relationships. Answer them in light of any role of leadership or responsibility you may have – or counsel you may need to offer.

1. The Book of Proverbs has a wealth of practical advice on living life, including how to parent. How do the following verses add some new insight or expand on what Chris shared this weekend?

### **Proverbs 20:7**

The righteous man leads a blameless life;  
blessed are his children after him. [NIV]

### **Proverbs 22:6**

Train a child in the way he should go,  
and when he is old he will not turn from it. [NIV]

### **Proverbs 23:24-26**

The father of a righteous man has great joy;  
he who has a wise son delights in him.  
[25] May your father and mother be glad;  
may she who gave you birth rejoice!  
[26] My son, give me your heart  
and let your eyes keep to my ways, [NIV]

### **Proverbs 29:17**

Discipline your son, and he will give you peace;  
he will bring delight to your soul. [NIV]

Is there one thing that stands out to you from these verses? If so, how could you incorporate it more into your life?

2. A couple of other Old Testament passages give us good insight into God's desires for parenting. In the following passages, jot down the actions and attitudes you see in each one that can relate to parenting.

### **Deuteronomy 6:4-8**

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. [5] Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. [6] These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. [7] Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. [8] Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. [NIV]

### **Psalm 127:3-5**

Sons are a heritage from the Lord,  
children a reward from him.

[4] Like arrows in the hands of a warrior  
are sons born in one's youth.

[5] Blessed is the man  
whose quiver is full of them.

They will not be put to shame  
when they contend with their enemies in the gate. [NIV]

What does 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 add to your understanding of the role of a parent?

### **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. [5] It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. [6] Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. [7] It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. [NIV]

3. Chris talked about how important modeling is in parenting. Take some time now to think about how your daily life reflects what you hope your children will catch regarding what it means to know, love and follow Jesus in the following areas...

...serving and putting others first

...forgiving others and owning up to your mistakes

...loving your enemies

...speaking the truth to others

...time with God