



January Parenting Notes

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In Malachi chapter 2 we are reminded of the marriage covenant and how God has made the couple one. “And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring.” Below are three ways to develop godly character in our children.¹

LOVE

We must love our children first. 1JN 4:19 “We love because he first loved us.” God loves us first and He sets an example for all parents to follow. We must love our children before we expect love from them.

Tip 1: Have fun with your children, make them laugh

Tip 2: Listen to your children

Tip 3: Sit next to your children, hug them, and show them physical affection

Tip 4: Look for the positive and praise your children

TEACH

We should teach through both instruction and example. One example of teaching through instruction is the teaching of God’s word that occurs during our family devotionals. Equally, if not more important, is our teaching through our words and actions in everyday life. We need to be close to God so that we can be an example to our children.

Tip 1: Teach your children to honor their father and mother. Ephesians 6:1-4

Tip 2: Make sure your children see you go to God for help. Psalm 115:11

Tip 3: Make sure your children see you pray and study your Bible often. Jeremiah 17:7-8

DISCIPLINE

Correction, when done right, is love. (Proverbs 13:24)

Tip 1: Be consistent. Don’t overlook misbehavior because you are tired or in public. PR 29:15, 17

Tip 2: Rebellion (deliberate disobedience including disrespect, pouting, anger and moodiness) should be dealt with immediately. 1 Samuel 15:23

Tip 3: Do not punish out of anger. Pray that God would give you control and wisdom.

¹ Materials utilized: Trumpet Periodical