

The Redeemed Family
Raising Godly Children

Psalms 127:3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward. **4** Like arrows in the hand of a warrior; So are the children of one's youth. **5** Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

v. 5: "quiver full" – this is so different than what our society currently values

v. 5: "they shall not be ashamed" – if you're children turn out great, you feel good about your life; opposite is never true.

5 How joyful is the man whose quiver is full of them! **He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates** (NLT)

Three applications:

- (1) Your physical children
- (2) Your own personal development
- (3) People you are discipling

Primary needs of children:

(1) Unconditional love

- Most parents are good at this. Need to make sure this continues as they get older.

(2) A good, consistent value system

- Convictions more than opinions
 - Way to field test the value – can you honestly recommend it to your children?!
- Eph. 6:4 - *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.* (NLT)

- Proverbs on child raising & discipline:

Prov. 13:24 If you do not punish your children, you don't love them, but if you love your children, you will correct them. (NCV)

Prov 29:15 The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.

During most of its twenty-two year existence, the Annual Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools has identified "lack of discipline" as the most serious problem facing the nation's educational system.

Many educators and students are also gravely concerned about disorder and danger in school

environments, and with good reason: Each month approximately three percent of teachers and students in urban schools, and one to two percent in rural schools, are robbed or physically attacked. Nearly 17,000 students per month experience physical injuries serious enough to require medical attention (Harvard Education Letter 1987).¹

Prov 29:17 Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul.

¹ School Improvement Research Series, www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/5/cu9.html

(3) A Christian faith & worldview

- The world is fallen
- The need for a Savior
- The revelation of scripture (epignosis)
- Actions in harmony with beliefs

“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, ... But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord,” Joshua 24:15