

# God's Goals for the Family



*We can make a great difference in our children's lives!*

What is your greatest parenting challenge?

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What do you hope to learn from these parenting sessions?

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## Purpose of Session #1

To increase our understanding

- of God's purpose for the family in His kingdom
- of parents' key role in shaping godly children.



### Purpose:

To help parents adopt God's plan for their family

## Do we have goals for our families?

Education: Without \_\_\_\_\_, there are no degrees.

War: Without \_\_\_\_\_, there are no victories.

Family: Without \_\_\_\_\_, there are no godly children.

### Psalm 127:3-4

**Behold, children are a gift of the LORD; The fruit of the womb is a reward.**



Children are given from the LORD Yahweh. We are accountable for them.

**Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.**



God uses our children to produce great works of God.

**How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They shall not be ashamed, When they speak with their enemies in the gate.**



Children like arrows need to be straightened and sharpened to be effective.

# A.) The Straight and Sharp Arrow

## 1) Negative Parenting

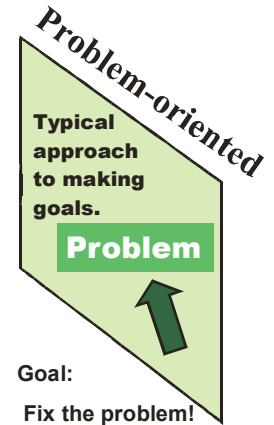
No goals = poor vision

- Never thought about it
- Care for outward needs

“Keep him out of trouble and he will be okay.”

“Don’t do that!”

“Stop that!”



## 2) Positive Parenting

The child needs shaping.

The parents goal is to produce a wise man.

They are instilling a great vision in the child.



God’s Word provides clear direction for the child to follow.

Negative Parenting	Positive Parenting
Child’s future path is _____ Parents focus on the child’s misbehavior The parent is _____ and angry The child feels rejected	Child’s future path is clear Parents focus on child’s _____ The parent is encouraged The child feels _____

"But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." (1 Timothy 1:5)

### 3 Models enforcing each other

(1) Cultivate love from a pure heart (Mark 12:29-31)

\_\_\_\_\_ OF BEING

"Jesus answered, "...You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." "The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Mark 12:29-31, NASB

(2) Develop a good conscience (Proverbs 1:7-8)

\_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction. Hear, my son, your father's instruction, And do not forsake your mother's teaching;" Proverbs 1:7,8, NASB.

(3) Form a sincere faith (Galatians 5:22-23)

\_\_\_\_\_ OF THE SPIRIT

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22,23,.

Summary: Be like \_\_\_\_\_.

## B.) Readyng your Arrow

### How does a parent ready their child for God's use?

#### 1) Problem Generation

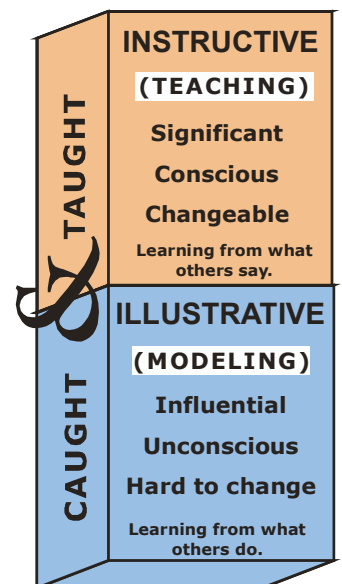
Droves of young people are leaving the church. Why? Inconsistency. Our young people hear the talk but don't see it lived out.

#### 2) Caught & Taught: The problem and solution

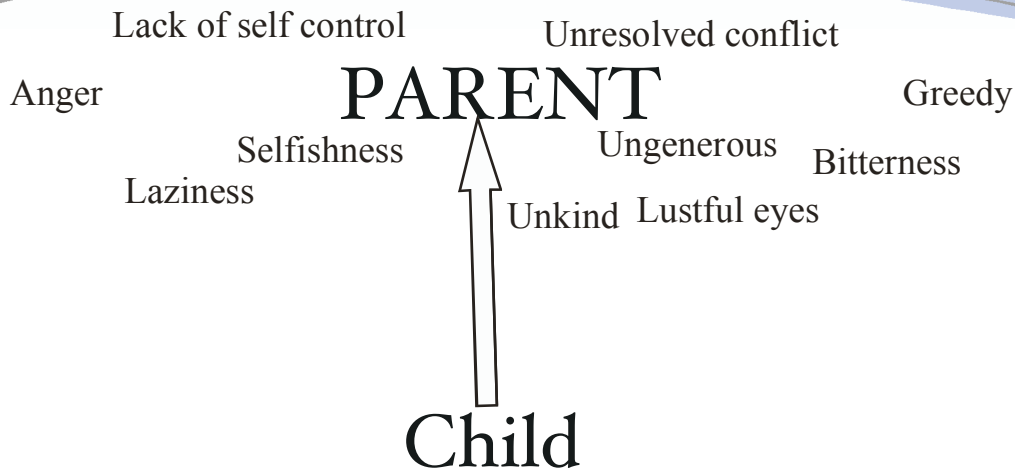
Like many Christian parents, we have been duped into thinking that if we only *tell* our child the right thing, he will follow it. They are not so easily convinced!

The child learns more through what they see than what they hear.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Learning  
(Learn how to respond to authority)
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Learning  
(Learn how to relate to others)
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Learning  
(Learn how to deal with others (morals))



# Parents have tremendous shaping power in their children's lives.

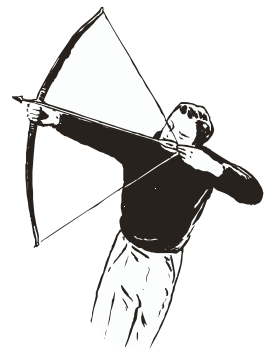


## Session Summary

- Defining a straight arrow
- Readyng that arrow

**Goal-oriented:  
Be like Jesus**

**Children reflect  
their parents**



Sign your name below if you are willing, by His grace and power, to train your children to be like Jesus.

Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

## Assignment

- 1 Reading: *The Goals of Parenting*
- 2 Answer the questions at the end of the reading.
- 3 Do the this project:
  - (1) List two or three of your child rearing difficulties.
  - (2) Try to identify the lack of which moral quality in your child that enables him to respond in such a way.  
(See partial list at top of sheet).
  - (3) Positively state which character qualities they do need in order to respond rightly to you.

# Answers for blanks in Worksheet Session#1

Education: Without \_\_goals\_\_, there are no degrees.

War: Without \_\_goals\_\_, there are no victories.

Family: Without \_\_goals\_\_, there are no godly children.

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Negative Parenting	Positive Parenting
Child's future path is __unclear__	Child's future path is clear
Parents focus on the child's misbehavior	Parents focus on child's __obedience__
The parent is __frustrated_ and angry	The parent is encouraged
The child feels rejected	The child feels _secure__

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(1) Cultivate love from a pure heart (Mark 12:29-31)

\_\_TOTALITY\_ OF BEING

(2) Develop a good conscience (Proverbs 1:7-8)

\_\_FEAR\_\_ OF GOD

(3) Form a sincere faith (Galatians 5:22-23)

\_FRUIT\_ OF THE SPIRIT

Summary: Be like \_\_Jesus\_\_.

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(1) **\_\_Positional\_\_ Learning**  
(Learn how to respond to authority)

(2) **\_\_Relational\_\_ Learning**  
(Learn how to relate to others)

(3) **\_\_Responsive\_\_ Learning**  
(Learn how to deal with others (morals))