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1. Children Are a Blessing and a Gift from God

- **Psalm 127:3 (NKJV)**

*“Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward.”*

- **Isaiah 54:13 (NKJV)**

*“All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.”*

*Theological Insight: This verse points to God’s direct role in shaping the lives of children. When families submit to God’s Word, He promises peace and spiritual well-being for their offspring.*

- **Psalm 34:11 (NKJV)**

*“Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.”*

*Theological Insight: The “fear of the Lord” refers to reverent awe and obedience. Teaching children this foundational truth is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10).*

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## 2. Jesus Welcomed and Blessed Children

- **Matthew 19:14 (NKJV)**

*“But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’”*

*Theological Insight: Children possess humility, trust, and dependence—qualities essential for entering God’s kingdom. Jesus’ embrace of children reveals their spiritual importance.*

- **Mark 10:15-16 (NKJV)**

*“Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.” And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.*

*Theological Insight: Jesus uses children to illustrate the kind of faith we must have. Their simple, unpretentious trust mirrors the heart posture of a true believer.*

- **Luke 2:52 (NKJV)**

*“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”*

*Theological Insight: Jesus' growth reflects the holistic development—mental, physical, spiritual, and social—that should be nurtured in every child.*

### 3. Children Should Be Taught and Disciplined in the Lord

- **Ephesians 6:1-4 (NKJV)**

*“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with promise: ‘that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.’ And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”*

*Theological Insight: Obedience and honor are covenantal principles that reflect our relationship with God. Discipline must be loving and rooted in God's Word—not in harshness or anger.*

- **Colossians 3:20 (NKJV)**

*“Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.”*

*Theological Insight: Children learn obedience to God through honoring their parents. This principle lays the groundwork for lifelong faithfulness.*

- **Proverbs 1:8-9 (NKJV)**

*“My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother; for they will be a graceful ornament on your head, and chains about your neck.”*

*Theological Insight: Parental teaching is compared to adornment—it brings dignity and direction to a child’s life.*

- **Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV)**

*“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

*Theological Insight: This verse underscores the importance of early moral and spiritual formation. The “way” refers not just to behavior but to the path of wisdom and godliness.*

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#### 4. Discipline as a Form of Love

- **Proverbs 13:24 (NKJV)**

*“He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly.”*

*Theological Insight: Loving discipline is not abuse—it is correction guided by wisdom, meant to shape character and prevent future destruction.*

- **Proverbs 22:15 (NKJV)**

*“Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him.”*

- **Proverbs 23:13-14 (NKJV)**

*“Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, and deliver his soul from hell.”*

*Theological Insight: These verses emphasize corrective discipline as a means of guiding children away from eternal consequences. In ancient Hebrew culture, the “rod” symbolized firm guidance, not violence.*

- **Hebrews 12:11 (NKJV)**

*“Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”*

*Theological Insight: God disciplines His children in love (Hebrews 12:6), and earthly discipline should reflect that same love and purpose—producing righteousness and peace.*

- **Proverbs 29:17 (NKJV)**

*“Correct your son, and he will give you rest; yes, he will give delight to your soul.”*

- **Proverbs 19:18 (NKJV)**

*“Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his destruction.”*

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## 5. Generational Blessing and Legacy

- **Proverbs 17:6 (NKJV)**

*“Children’s children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children is their father.”*

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