

# Parenting: Shepherding Hearts

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Wheelersburg Baptist Church ~ December 2, 2019

## INTRODUCTION

A. What really is the issue?

1. "Two boys and the bike."
2. "The immodest teenage daughter."

B. Tonight, we want to talk about parenting in terms of \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of our children.

C. Parenting is not a formulaic task like programming a computer, it is more like the task of \_\_\_\_\_.

## I. RECOGNIZE PARENTING AS \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR CHILDREN

A. You are a shepherd because you are a child's \_\_\_\_\_ to life (cf. Proverbs 1.1-7).

- You do not just spank for unacceptable behavior and teach a few bible lessons – you \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_ to all that your children will encounter.

B. You are a shepherd because you are helping your child understand \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ in which he lives.

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1. It is a process in which he gains the correct \_\_\_\_\_ of himself and world in which he lives .
2. You help him to understand himself as a creature made \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ God.
3. You help him understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ on the world and its effects.
4. You also help him understand that it is a God-created world and so can only be properly understood by using \_\_\_\_\_ .

C. You are a shepherd because you help your child understand not only the " \_\_\_\_\_ " of his behavior, but the " \_\_\_\_\_ " as well.

D. You are a shepherd because there must be a \_\_\_\_\_ interaction than merely telling your child what to do and think.

## II. RECOGNIZE THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF SHEPHERDING THE HEARTS OF YOUR CHILDREN

A. Understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of the heart (Proverbs 4.23; Mark 7.21; Luke 6.45)

1. The heart determines \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. What your children say and do is a \_\_\_\_\_ of what is in their \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. The heart is the \_\_\_\_\_ of life!

B. The BASIC ISSUE is **NOT** \_\_\_\_\_, but what is going on in the heart.

C. To really help your children, you must be concerned with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

1. A child's needs are much more profound than his aberrant \_\_\_\_\_.

2. A change in behavior that does not stem from a change in the heart is not \_\_\_\_\_ it is \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 15.7)

D. How does this effect correction and discipline?

1. You **MUST** require \_\_\_\_\_ since God's law demands that.

2. You **MUST ALSO** help your child to understand how his \_\_\_\_\_ resulted in wrong behavior .

3. EXAMPLES:

a. "Children fighting over a toy"

b. "Two boys and the bike."

c. "The immodest teenage daughter."

4. Since all behavior reflects an attitude of the heart your correction must address the \_\_\_\_\_ .

5. You must unmask the sin of the heart and that leads to the \_\_\_\_\_.

E. How do you get to the heart?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to what your children say  
(Luke 6.45).

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Proverbs 18.15).

a. What did you \_\_\_\_\_ (desire, seek, aim for, hope for)?

b. What would make you \_\_\_\_\_?

c. What were you \_\_\_\_\_ when you did that?

d. What makes that so \_\_\_\_\_ to you?

e. What do you \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) most about that?

3. To get to the heart of your child requires interaction or communication **that** is more than one way (Proverbs 18.2).

### III. RECOGNIZE THE CENTRALITY OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ TO YOUR SHEPHERDING TASK

A. Will proper parenting produce \_\_\_\_\_?  
(cf. Romans 1.16)

B. The central focus of parenting is the \_\_\_\_\_.

1. That means that you must address not only the Behavior (or "\_\_\_\_\_") of your children, but the heart attitudes (or "\_\_\_\_\_") of your children.

2. God works from the \_\_\_\_\_ - so our parenting goal cannot merely be well-behaved children.

3. Do not put your hope in rules as the means of \_\_\_\_\_ your children.

4. Do not give your children a \_\_\_\_\_ standard.

5. The Law of God is not easy for the natural man and it teaches our children the need for \_\_\_\_\_ .

C. Make it a habit of \_\_\_\_\_ your children in the Gospel.

## CONCLUSION

A. \_\_\_\_\_ parenting does not address the heart biblically and produces \_\_\_\_\_ children who do not know what makes them tick.

B. Biblical parenting means \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ :

1. Helping children understand themselves, God's \_\_\_\_\_, how \_\_\_\_\_ works *in* the human heart, and how the \_\_\_\_\_ meets their most profound need.

2. It involves helping them understand their \_\_\_\_\_, goals, \_\_\_\_\_ and desires .

3. It exposes the true nature of reality and encourages \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord Jesus Christ for all of life.