

“Parents Are Necessary”
Ephesians 6:1-4

Introduction

1. **SLIDE 1** *Parents Are Necessary Eph. 6:1-4*
2. This particular Sunday is Father’s Day.
3. Because of Covid-19 we did not celebrate Mother’s Day, so, today we’re combining Mother’s Day and Father’s Day and celebrating Parent’s Day. – *Parents Are Necessary.*

I. Who thought of Parenting? SLIDES 2-3

- A. God did.
- B. ^{NAS} **Genesis 1:26-28** Mankind made in the Image, Likeness of God – v 26
 1. Mankind made Male and Female – v 27
 2. Multiply – become parents – v 28
 3. Given Authority – v 28
 - a. In the field.
 - b. In the home.
 - c. Mutual Authority as husband and wife.
 - d. Dual leadership in individual uniqueness.
 - e. Coming together in Covenant Relationship to be One in Christ.
- C. Some people would say Parenting is necessary for procreation – but – Parenting goes way beyond that.

II. Is Parenting merely teaching, training, protecting and providing for our children? SLIDE 4

- A. According to Scripture, we can say that as parents we are to teach, train, protect and provide for our children.
 1. Prov. 22:6 – 6 Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.
 - a. Recognize the child’s personality.
 - b. Recognize ways the child learns.
 - c. Recognize talents, skills, passion.
 - d. Train the child with this knowledge.
 2. Prov. 1:8 – ⁸ *Hear, my son, your father's instruction, And do not forsake your mother's teaching;*
 3. Protection – Heb. 11:23 – ²³ *By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict.*
- B. And the Scripture has more to say about what we call our role as a parent.
- C. But, is there more to it?
- D. What is the heart of parenting – the core behind it?

III. As Christians, parenting is being a Reflection of God to our children. SLIDE 5

- A. We are made in the Image, the Likeness of God.
- B. Our calling as Christians is to the Lord – to be in relationship and Oneness with Him.
- C. If that is our calling as Christians, should we not reflect that calling to our children for them to know Christ in relationship and Oneness the same way that we do?
- D. **SLIDE 6** Eph. 6:1-3
 1. Obey – to listen, to listen with the intent to obey
 2. Honor – to value, revere, respect
 3. John MacArthur:

- a. V 1 is action.
- b. V 2-3 is attitude – the motivation behind the action.
- 4. Col. 3:20 – Obey in all things for it is well-pleasing to the Lord.
- E. **SLIDE 7** Eph. 6:4
^{NLT} **Ephesians 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.
- F. We teach by example.
 - 1. Gary Collins – “Mothers and fathers have a responsibility to model mature Christian behavior, to love their children, to care for their needs, to teach the young and to discipline fairly.”
 - 2. **SLIDE 8** Dr. Collins quotes Gene A Getz: “We exasperate children when we abuse them physically, psychologically (by humiliating them and failing to treat them with respect), neglect them, don’t try to understand them, expect too much from them, withhold love unless they perform, force them to accept our goals or ideas, and refuse to admit our mistakes.”
 - 3. **SLIDE 9** Again, Dr. Gary Collins – “In contrast, we ‘bring them up’ by being examples to our children and by giving instructions and encouragement.”
 ** and he adds that in obeying – “It is possible that when parents show no apparent desire to obey God, their children, in turn, are less inclined to obey parents.”
- G. I asked – what is the heart of parenting – the core behind it?
- H. **SLIDES 10-12** Duet. 6:1-7 – Gary Collins – “These paragraphs have great practical relevance for modern child rearing and parental guidance.”
- I. **Parents Are Necessary to be a Reflection of God to our children.**
 - 1. Listen to the Lord and become One with His Word.
 - 2. Obey what we hear and understand.
 - 3. Love the Lord our God with all that we are.
 - 4. And as we live it, then we teach it to our children.