

Proactive Parenting



Seeking to Stay Ahead of the Curve

The High Priestly Prayer

Our Text:
John 17:1-18



Transferrable Principles

∞ Biblical Leadership

- **1 Timothy 3:4–5** - *“He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church?”*
- Principles of Biblical Leadership are applicable to any type of leadership setting.

∞ Biblical Discipleship

- Applicable to any type of Parenting, Discipleship, or Mentoring opportunity

Discipleship & Parenting

- ✎ John 17:6 – These men were given to Jesus
 - **Psalm 127:3** - *“Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward.”*
- ✎ John 17:7-8 – Truth was passed down
 - **Ephesians 6:4** - *“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”*
- ✎ John 17:9 – There was a special love He had for them
 - **Psalm 103:13** - *“As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.”*

Discipleship & Parenting

- ✎ John 17:11 – He had a limited time to influence them
 - **Proverbs 19:18** - *“Discipline your son, for there is hope; do not set your heart on putting him to death.”*
- ✎ John 17:12 – He protected and guarded them
 - **Matthew 7:9–11** - *“Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”*
- ✎ John 17:13 – His desire was for their joy
 - Isaac’s deathbed blessing upon Jacob: **Genesis 28:3** - *“God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples.”*

Discipleship & Parenting

- ✎ John 17:14-17 – He prepared them by teaching them truth in order to set them apart from the rest of the world
 - **Proverbs 1:8–9** - *“Hear, my son, your father’s instruction, and forsake not your mother’s teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.”*
- ✎ John 17:18 – He would eventually send them out into the world.
 - **Genesis 2:24** - *“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”*

Christ's Proactive “Parenting”



Putting it into Practice

Proactive Parenting: What's the Difference?

Proactive vs. Reactive

Proactive

- Has a Destination
- Has a Plan to Get There
- Foresight & Planning

Reactive

- Takes Life as it Comes
- Isn't focused on the Big Picture
- Usually short on preparation
- Expend a lot of effort trying to fix what is broken



Christ's "Parenting" Principle

- ☞ **Mark 1:17** - *“And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.””*
- **Destination:** To make them into Fishers of Men
 - **Method:** To follow Him and learn by His Teaching & Example



Proactive Parenting in Practice:

- ☞ Showing
- ☞ Doing
- ☞ Timing
- ☞ Prevention



Proactive Parenting in Practice: Showing

☞ Encouraging & Answering Questions

- **Matthew 13:10** - *“Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?””*

☞ Arranging Teachable Moments

- **Mark 6:34-50** – Feeding 5,000 and then walking on water and calming the storm
- **Mark 6:51–52** - *“And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.”*

☞ Teaching On the Fly

- **Matthew 26:51-51** – Teaching the disciples after Peter cut off the servant’s ear.

Proactive Parenting in Practice: Doing

✚ Matthew 10 – The “Small” Commission

- Considering the Big Picture
- Giving them some appropriate authority, independence, and “leash”
- Prepare them for the immediate task
- Prepare them for the long-term task



Proactive Parenting in Practice: Timing

- ✎ **Matthew 16:13-20** – Jesus confirms His identity
- ✎ **Matthew 16:21** - *“From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”*
- ✎ **Matthew 16:22-27** – Jesus rebuked Peter and foretold the suffering of His servants as well.
 - Recognize the signs of readiness
 - Recognize necessity



Proactive Parenting in Practice: Prevention

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” – Ben Franklin

- ☞ **Luke 22:31–33** - *“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” Peter said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.”*
- ☞ **Matthew 26:31-35** – Jesus warned disciples of their weakness
- ☞ **Matthew 26:36-44** – Jesus tries to prepare them for the upcoming trial
- ☞ **Matthew 26:69-74** – Failure
- ☞ **Matthew 26:75** - *“And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.”*
- ☞ **John 21:15-19** – Jesus guides Peter through restoration

Proactive Parenting- Why Not?

Busyness

Matthew 6:33 - *“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”*

Laziness

Philippians 2:13 - *“for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”*

Lack of Foresight/Wisdom

Psalms 19:7 - *“The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;”*

Fear

Joshua 1:9 - *“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”*

Proactive Parenting - Closing Charges

John 17:19 – The “Follow Me” Principle

- ☞ **Deuteronomy 4:9** - *“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children”*
- ☞ **1 Timothy 4:16** - *“Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.”*

John 17:24-26 – Get the Gospel Right

- ☞ Don’t settle for a soothed conscience; seek true conversion

Proactive Parenting - Closing Charges

PowerPoint available at:
www.anchoredresources.org

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