Always have a better idea

"Do what I have said, no modifications, now"

Understanding Your Child's _____
2 types of snares – one that surprises us and one that we see ahead of time and walk in anyway

Discipline for the seen and unseen should not be the same

Our children will often set up snares that we can see and approach with discipline

Practice #1:   Practice #2
What is the hard choice?   What is the hard choice?

What virtues are at play?   What virtues are at play?

Homework:
Family Mission: Have you formulated your mission?

Identify your family's "style."

Determine two virtues that you will teach into this week. Remember to include yourself

Purposeful Parenting
4

INTRODUCTION:
"Actively Discipling Behaviors and Attitudes"
Prov. 4:10-27
(Other Scripture to consider - Psa 16:11; 27:11; 119:35; 119:105; 139:3; 142:3; Pro 1:14-16; 2:9; 5:6)

UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLES

The Principle of Biblical _____ (From Ephesians)
1 – Gracious responses (not angry reactions)
2 – Listen Humbly
3 – Speak the truth in love
4 – Address the issue while edifying the person
5 – Keep Current

The Principle of Biblical _____ – Eph 4:22-24
3 Steps in Biblical Change
    1 – Put Off the sinful behavior

      Actions

      Attitudes

    2 – Be renewed in your mind

      Do not skip this step!

      Your values will come through in these interactions.

      Are you valuing a virtue of Christ or are you valuing a fleshly desire?
        Common Fleshly desires that pop up in parenting

        _____
        Embarrassment over child's behavior

        Desiring for your child to be liked (sneaky flesh move from desire for your child to be a blessing)

        _____
        Frustration over changes in schedule

        _____
        Of others opinions

      Infant/Toddler – elevate truth, not consequence

      Toddler/Child
        Elevate Christ

Begin to investigate thinking

Child/∞
    Elevate Christ

    Investigate their application of the biblical process of change

3 – Put On the Christlike behavior
    Emphasize the working of faith

PARENTING PRINCIPLES

The Principle of _____

"I have taught thee . . . I have led thee"

Instead of denying weaknesses and struggles, allow the change that the Holy Spirit leads you through to be a path for them to follow.

Depending on your make-up and your child's, you may need to work on "display" mode for your attitudes.

Question them and encourage questions from them.

The Principle of _____

"way of wisdom" "take fast hold of instruction"

Celebrate the virtues of Christ and rehearse the joys of truth

    Help your child identify the virtue in Christ and why it is important to them and you – i.e., why you value it!

Don't ignore feelings, but understand what feelings are and explain them to your child

    *Feelings

        Feelings are indicators

            What we value

            What we worship

            i.e., What controls us

        Feelings must be addressed by gospel truth! (We must teach our children that behavior is a function of our decisions, not our conditions.)

The Principle of _____

   Notice how Solomon consistently clarifies:

      Instruction/expectation
       Practical application
         DO NOT LECTURE

         "Pack a phrase" for each virtue and use it often

      Consequence

        Of choosing correctly

        Of choosing incorrectly

      Practical application
        Make sure there are "degrees" on both sides of the spectrum

        Do not "surprise" your child with reactive discipline

        You have the right to change the parameters and redefine them if inadequate

        We must realize that every decision takes us toward or away from our stated goals. We either train proactively or reactively – but we train ALL the time because our children are always in learning mode.

        We must learn to ask ourselves, "What virtue does this activity/decision elevate?"

Putting It Together
Understanding your child's path
Decisions are always made in one of two directions.

"Two choices on the shelf, pleasing _____ or pleasing _____."

Children often fall into a particular style of decision-making:

Thinker – dominos inside of head, all of them have to fall before they respond

    "You must _____ now."

Feeler – relationship-oriented, but can't decide
   Children will have options/maybe try to "gift" you instead of obeying.

    "You must control emotions and obey now!"

Doer – dozen projects going, lots of ideas going on