

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ORILE IGANMU

Praising the Father, Raising His Children, Reaching the World

Kingdom Parenting: Raising Godly Generations

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Scripture: Psalm 78:1-8

Description: Introduction Like, they say, begets like. If the offspring is completely different from the parents

something is fundamentally wrong. In case there is a variation between the parents and their offspring, then genetic modification has taken place. We are kingdom people. In a normal circumstance our children should be godly. Unfortunately, godliness is not genetic. It is a product of conscious godly training. Our focus this year as kingdom people aims at encouraging kingdom people to wake up to their

responsibility in raising godly generations.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" - 2 Timothy 3:16

Sermon Transcript

Kingdom Parenting

This is an act of raising our children in the way of God using kingdom principles as enshrined in the Bible in such a way that the children will grow up to know, love and serve God throughout their lifetime. It's our primary assignment to lead our children to the Lord. Never assume that they are born again because they are involved in various church activities. Activities in itself cannot produce regeneration. Our children must get to the point of Romans 10:9 where each of them will confess with their mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe their heart God raised him from the dead. Kingdom people whose children are ungodly cannot be said to have succeeded in kingdom

parenting. May God help us to fulfil this mandate in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.

Curriculum of Kingdom Parenting

Every course of study has its content and objectives. Kingdom parenting is not different. In our chosen text, the following contents form the curriculum designed to produce godliness in our children. Parents have to teach their children:

- 1. The praiseworthy deeds of the LORD (Psalm 78:4): The heavens declare the glory of God... (Psalm 19:1-6). Kingdom parents should lead their children to know God through the nature. This will produce in our children the heart for worship as they behold God's glory in everything around them. God is omnipresent and yet invisible. If you can see Him in everything around, it will help your consciousness of His presence and help you stay away from sinning.
- 2. His power (Psalm 78:4). Kingdom parent should lead their children to experience the power of God. (Psalm 29) Knowing what God is capable to do spurs our heart to depend on him for everything and in every situation. A child that does not know the power of God will definitely look elsewhere in time of need.
- 3. The wonders he has done (Psalm 78:4; 1 Samuel 2:10): Our personal testimonies of God's wonders is a proof of God's power at work in our lives. God is ever the same. Telling our children the wonderful things God has done for us will help them grow in their faith in our God.
- 4. His statutes and law (Psalm 78:5): God's laws teach us how we can relate with Him and fellow humans. (Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Deut. 6:5). Kingdom parents should teach their wards the laws of God through family daily devotion and conscious reading of the Bible. Knowing and obeying the laws of God is pivotal to godly living. Any child that does not know the Bible cannot be godly.

Objectives of Kingdom Parenting

The ultimate goal of kingdom parenting is to have a new generation competent to raise another generation of kingdom people (Psalm 78:6). Lois exemplified this (2 Timothy 1:5). Kingdom parenting aims to lead next generations:

- 1. To put their trust in God and not forget His deeds.
- 2. Not to be stubborn and rebellious
- 3. To be loyal to God, and
- 4. To Remain faithful to God.

Gains of Raising Godly Generations

- 1. God will be glorified
- 2. Parents will have peace of mind
- 3. The children will be filled with presence and power of God
- 4. The society will be blessed through the children.
- 5. God's kingdom will expand through them.

Factors of Behavioral Modification

It is not enough to lead our children to Christ. We must understand that the devil - our adversary is like a roaring

lion going round looking for whom to devour. The innocent younger generation are part of his target. Some of the weapons he uses against them include:

- 1. Peer pressure
- 2. Uncensored Internet content
- 3. Exposure to ungodly culture

These and many more are capable of wrongly modifying spiritual life of our children and thus produce different character entirely. As we train our children in the way of the Lord, prayer must not be neglected.

Conclusion

Failure to raise godly generation is disastrous. Eli's case attests to this. (1 Samuel 2:12-17; 4:1-22)

Priesthood was taken away from his family. His two sons died the same day. The ark of God's covenant was captured. He also died upon receiving the news of his son's death. What a great tragedy! All efforts must be made to ensure that our children are competent under God to raise their children in such a way that will honour us and glorify God. Shalom!

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"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." - Matthew 18:20