The Spiritual Instruction of Children – Part 2

Adam Willingham · Ephesians 6:1–3 · Series: **The Home**

INTRODUCTION

- The only solution to the problem that we're losing young people in the church is the home, the parent.
- These three phases build on one another. So you cannot start with discipleship. You can't even start with doctrine.
- All three of these have to be done effectively by the parents.

1 Discipline: Training Children to Obey With Honor

Ephesians 6:1–3; Romans 1:18–32

- Training children to obey with an attitude of honor is discipline.
- Our goal as parents need to be … first time, every time, with an attitude of respect and honor.
- This training can only be done by parents. It cannot be done by the church.
- He who withholds his rod hates his son. But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.
- It is a big deal, children, when you disobey and dishonor your mother and your father.
- They will become whatever we allow them to become.

2 Doctrine: What to Believe and Why

Deuteronomy 6:4–7; 2 Timothy 3:15; Exodus 12:26–27

- This is teaching your children what to believe and why to believe it.
- A child that has not been taught discipline at home is impossible to teach doctrine to. So that's why discipline must come first.
- And that is how children are taught doctrine, primarily in the home.
- Sharpen God's words to your children so that it will penetrate their souls and it will do what it was intended to do.
- Parents are to give their children substance, not platitudes, not simply rights and wrongs, not moralisms.
- Train up a child in the way he should go. And when he is old, he will not depart from it. So start young.

3 Discipleship: Showing Them How to Apply It

- Discipleship means showing your children how to apply what they have been taught.
- It is teaching them how to live.
- It's something you do, and it's something that they see in your actions. You set an example.
- Discipleship cannot take place until doctrine has first formally been established.
- All your children will have … are moralisms. A set of do's and don'ts.

THE CHALLENGE

If you're not a Christian, then why don't you come believing in the Lord, repenting of your sins, and be born again of water and the Spirit, and continue to live faithfully before Him.

MY NOTES