

Pleasant Valley Weekly

Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding. (Psalm 47 : 6–7)

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Issue 20

Have we failed our children?

Friday, May 17, 2013—8th Grade Graduation

My daughter Haylei graduated 8th grade on Friday. At the ceremony the 8th Grade Valedictorian was asked to speak. When she was done, I began to ask myself, “Have we failed our children?”

Children grow up watching, listening, taking notes, and imitating those around them. Whether you like it or not, their biggest influence is YOU. I’d like you ask yourself a tough question —”Have you failed your children?” It’s not easy to ask yourself this, and it isn’t easy being honest with yourself about the answer.

What do children need most? It’s not their own bedroom, the latest video game, it’s not even nice clothes, shoes, or a car. But how many of us give what we feel is the best to our children? Jesus says specifically, that we give our children what we think is the best. (Matthew 7 : 7–11)

However, what our children need above everything else is a solid foundation built upon God, His word, and His righteousness. With God in our homes, family, and lives the problems of the world disappear. As Christians, have we done our jobs to bring our children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, or, have we brought them up in the world? I am afraid of that answer.

Have we failed our children?

* Proverbs 22 : 6

Train—to teach or form by practice.

What practices do/did you preach in your home?

* II Timothy 3 : 6

Scripture is for instruction!

* Musar (h) - warning or instruction

Musar is discipline that teaches one how to live correctly.

* So—How do we do it? How do we train up our children?

I. God’s word

Father’s what have you done to put God’s word first for your family?

Mother’s what are you doing to not make the word of God blasphemed in your home?

II. Through our own example

Father’s what examples have you set for you children? What do you want for them in the future? Show them!

Mother’s are you setting the proper example with how you perform your work for the family? Remember—they are watching!

* Have we lost our children? Where have we been going wrong? Let’s make the changes. Actually put God first! Actually set the good example!