



The Seasons of Parenting

The expression, "Seasons of Parenting," is a wonderful way to understand the core concepts of raising our children. Just as seasons change, through the years our children change and the way we parent changes. And, although you may have a favorite season of the year, we must live through all the seasons.

This class is a Biblical look at parenting

- There are enough challenges, hurdles and battles facing you as a parent
- What you do not need is more guilt
- We want to help, encourage, teach and give you hope

How God Views Children - Psalms 127:3-5 -

Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; they will not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.



The Four Seasons of Parenting:

- (a) SPRING: babies to school age: role as a parent is _____
- (b) SUMMER: school age to adult: role as parent is _____
- (c) FALL: grown adult child: role as a parent is _____ & _____
- (d) WINTER: Adult child helps the parent: role as a parent becomes _____ HELP

Principles of Seasons

What happens in one season _____ what follows _____ season has it's own challenges and wonderful blessings

There is a _____ season and one cannot put that off for another time

Those that do not recognize the different seasons will _____

The Lord knows, as well as the devil knows the valuable role that the home places in our society:

- the home is the center of foundational learning
- the home impacts multiple generations
- the home is the epicenter of life

Your child will take with him impressions
of your home to shape his home

Recognize Immediately

1. Things have _____ since you were a kid

Parents asked in a survey: "Would you rather have 5 more hours at home a week or \$10,000 a year, 83% chose the money"

- 37% increase in teenage depression
- 200% increase in suicide rate in children aged 10-14
- nearly 14,000 minors underwent sex-change procedures in recent years
- the most common cause of injury for women between the ages of 15-44 is domestic violence (1/6 of women in a church are being abused verbally at home and 3 out of 10 are being abused physically)
- Nearly 17 million children do not live with their fathers
- 3 out of 4 teens surveyed said that they live with no rules, no deadlines, no curfews

Today's child is filled with

Digitally distracted parents
Permissive parents who let children make the rules
Sense of entitlement with earning or being responsible
Poor sleep and unbalanced nutrition
Sedentary lifestyle
Endless stimulation (technological nannies)

Why should I be concerned with these
troubling statistics?

2. You cannot _____ the responsibility
of parenting on to someone else or
_____ being an active parent

3. As your child ages, you will no longer be
the most _____ person in his life

4. Your child has a major advantage because of _____

- Through you they will learn responsibility, accountability, respect, serving, walking with God

Challenges Facing Godly

Parents:

Maintaining a godly atmosphere in
a very ungodly world
Raising boys to be men of God and
girls to be virtuous women
Balancing the demands at work and
home
Determining how much social
media influence

The Myths of Parenting that will only make your work harder

1. I am to be the _____ parent
2. The older my kids get, the _____ it will be to raise them
3. If I take my children to church, they shouldn't have _____
4. The goal is to have _____ children
5. If my kids struggle, it is my _____
6. I have _____ my family if we do not have fabulous vacations
7. I am to be my child's _____

Deuteronomy 6:5-6 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

What parenting tips does this
passage give us?