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**Sermon: *God’s Word for Moms and Dads***

**Scripture: Ephesians 6:4**

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Sunday, June 9, 2019

**Introduction:**

* Parenting is graciously more than we can bear, that we (and our children) might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on God!

***Scripture:*** *2 Corinthians 1:8-9; 1 Peter 4:11*

* Paul’s warning was both countercultural and counter to our natural \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***Scripture:*** *Ephesians 6:4a; Colossians 3:21; Galatians 5:19-20*

**Paul gives three beautiful elements of parenting which is led by the Holy Spirit:**

1. **Spirit-led parenting involves patient \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

* To nourish, one must be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Here are some ways to create a nourishing environment:

* Give Kindness. *(Ephesians 4:32a)*
* Give Tenderness. *(Ephesians 4:32b)*
* Give Forgiveness. (and seek it, too) *(Ephesians 4:32c)*
* Give Encouragement. *(Proverbs 15:1; Ephesians 4:29)*

1. **Spirit-led parenting involves persistent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

* Discipline speaks primarily of what is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the child.

***Scripture:*** *Hebrews 12:5-12*

* Discipline should seek the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ good of the child.
* David’s failure to discipline Absalom came at great cost. *(2 Samuel 14, 15)*

1. **Spirit-led parenting involves consistent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

* Instruction speaks primarily of what is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the child.
* Failure to instruct children has dire consequences for both \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Consider the examples of Eli & Samuel. *(1 Samuel 1:3, 2:12, 3:11-13, 4:4-11; 8:5)*
* May our lips and lives consistently communicate our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for God, that the next generation might hope in God.*(Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Psalm 78: 144:4; 37:2; 103:15-18)*

**Conclusion:**

“The very heart of Christian nurture is this: to bring the heart of a child to the heart of his Savior.”

-*William Hendriksen*

**Questions to Consider:**

1. How might parenting help us grow in our reliance on God?
2. How can we reflect the nature of God as we nurture the next generation?
3. What can we learn about parenting from God’s discipline of those He loves?
4. What do the failures of David, Eli and Samuel teach us about parenting?
5. What must we faithfully keep before the minds of the next generation?
6. How can we avoid giving the next generation false or deceptive hope?
7. In what ways can we consistently communicate knowledge and wisdom to the next generation?