

Faith Talk

Trinity Canadian Reformed Church

Worshipping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E

A Parent's Task
by Deanna Smid

While the Bible may not tell you how to change diapers or heal scraped knees, it is still a parenting manual. God's Word teaches parents to raise their children "in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Eph 6:4). This is a difficult task, so children must respect their parents. The fifth commandment tells children to "honour your father and mother" (Ex 20:12).

Teaching God's Word to young people is rewarding. Proverbs 1:9 calls a father's instruction and a mother's teaching "a garland to grace your head." Children receive knowledge and wisdom from their parents, and parents also gain pleasure from teaching their offspring about God and the Bible.

Parents teach by example. They cannot just tell their children how to live according to God's commands, they must also show them. Good words are most meaningful when they are backed up by good actions.

As God's people, we are in two parent-child relationships. We have parents here on earth, and we also have a Father in Heaven. God has adopted us to be his children, whom he loves. Parents have the responsibility to reflect God's fatherly love for his children.

None of this is easy for parents to do. Instructing children in God's Word requires patience, perseverance, and God's help. He gives strength, and guidance from the Bible. This is more important than any other parenting manual.

Parents have a big responsibility. Let's love and honour them, not just on mother's and father's day, but on every day.

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