

Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him, like arrows in the hand of a warrior are sons born in one's youth.

(Psalm 127:3-4)

The BIBLE is crucial for raising children, not because it is a pediatric MANUAL, but because it teaches spiritual truth that is crucial for all of life. The PRINCIPLES and WISDOM of the Bible are the greatest resource a parent has to raise children!

IF CHILDREN ARE ARROWS, WHAT ARE THE TARGETS?

DISCIPLESHIP i.e. following God's path

Trusting the Creator
(At times this means humbly realizing that their own "understanding" is not sufficient or trustworthy.)

Acknowledging the Creator (This brings humility and enables God to <u>lead</u> and <u>use</u> their lives for his purpose)

DISCIPLINE

1. Training, drill, exercise, method, practice

2. Punishment, chastisement, correction

3. <u>Self-control</u>, orderliness, restraint (Thesaurus)

The <u>purpose</u> of punishment should be <u>discipline</u>, but the <u>purpose</u> of <u>discipline</u> is NOT punishment.

The <u>power</u> of discipline is [only] fully realized in the disciplined <u>performance</u>.

- Stand firm in the will of God, mature and fully assured. (Col. 4:12)

- Stand firm in the faith. Have courage. Be strong. Do everything in love. (1 Cor. 16:13-14)

DISCOVERY

"find... (vs. 13)... "gain"... (vs. 13)... "embrace"... (vs. 18)

1. Explanations and Expectations > Teach... Show

2. <u>Validation</u> and <u>Vision</u> > Observe... Support... Challenge