

Parenting

Sunday, 10/2/2022

God's Design For Happy Relationships

Week 40

4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord—Ephesians 6:4

Does this command apply exclusively to fathers? _____

1. In ancient Rome, fathers had _____ authority
2. In many cultures, _____ are expected to raise the kids
3. Context: children instructed to obey and honor **both** parents

(–) Don't provoke to anger nor to _____, 6:4a, Col 3:21

Nine ways to provoke to anger

Positive opposite: parent with the aim of peace and hope

(+) Nourish and nurture ("Bring them up..."), 6:4b

1. Training ("discipline")
2. Admonition ("instruction")

Discussion, reflection, application

- How should a parent who struggles with anger deal with a child's anger?
- When a parent sins against a child, why is it crucial to ask forgiveness?
Will this increase or decrease a child's respect for the parent?
What if the parent repeatedly commits the same sin?
- Two resources for those who struggle with sinful anger:
A Small Book About A Big Problem (Welch), *Good and Angry: Redeeming Anger, Irritation, Complaining, and Bitterness* (Powlison)
- Except for imminent danger, is it sinful to yell at a child? How can a parent break this habit?
- How can a parent who has difficulty relate verbally and emotionally to a child learn to overcome this?