

Shepherding a Child's Heart

Baby Dedication Reading Assignment

Directions:

1. *On their own*, each parent is to read & answer the questions below for the first 13 chapters. (Each parent must turn in their answer)
2. Write your name on this sheet and turn in your completed answer page to Xiomara Bueno by April 20th. (2 weeks before baby dedication)
3. Begin discussing with your spouse what you have learned & how you want to partner together to implement these biblical principles into the heart's of your children.

Chapter 1: Getting to the Heart of Behavior

- #5. If the point of discipline is to direct the heart, how does that change the approach to discipline and correction? (pg. 8)

Chapter 2: Your Child's Development: Shaping Influences

- #3. What would you (your children) identify as the values of your family? What are the things that matter most to you? (pg.17)
- #5. Who is the boss in your home? (pg.17)
- #6. What are the patterns for conflict resolution? (pg.17)

Chapter 3: Your Child's Development: Godward Orientation

- #2. What do you think is the Godward Orientation of your children? (pg.25)
- #5. Are you and your spouse spending time in prayer for God to reveal Himself to your children? Ultimately, God initiates any work in your child's heart. (pg.25)

Chapter 4: You're in Charge

- #2. How frequently does your correction of your children boil down to an interpersonal contest rather than an underscoring of God's authority over your children? (pg.38)
- #5. How will seeing yourself as *God's agent* change the way you discipline? (pg.38)

Chapter 5: Examining Your Goals

- #9. Are the spoken and unspoken rules of your family life consistent with true spirituality – living for the glory of God? (pg.48)

Chapter 6: Reworking Your Goals

#8. True spiritual shepherding is a matter of nurture, not just energy spent getting your children saved. How will this affect what you do with them? (pg.57)

Chapter 7: Discarding Unbiblical Methods

#2. Which of the unbiblical methods above have you seen yourself use? (pg. 69)

Chapter 8: Embracing Biblical Methods: Communication

#3 What are 5 or 6 good questions for drawing out what your child is thinking or feeling? (pg. 79)

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.

Chapter 9: Embracing Biblical Methods: Types of Communication

#4. What are the *quality of relationship* issues that must be in place if you are going to be able to entreat your child in winsome ways?(pg.88)

Chapter 10: Embracing Biblical Methods: A Life of Communication

#1. If you were to have the kind of communication with your children outlined here, what would the costs be for you? Are you willing to pay that price? (pg.98)

#3. Is confession of your sins, where appropriate, a regular part of your communication with your children? (pg.98)

#4. What sanctification issues that you would need to address in order to lead your children in the ways set forth in this chapter? (pg.98)

Chapter 11: Embracing Biblical Methods: The Rod

#4. Review the common objections to the rod. Have any of these been your objection? (pg.114)

Chapter 12: Embracing Biblical Methods: Appeal to the Conscience

#1. To whom does your child feel accountable when he sins? (pg.121)

#4. What benefits come from appealing to the conscience rather than focusing on behavior? (pg.121)

I strongly encourage you (and your spouse) to finish reading and discussing the rest of this book together, so you can both:

1. know God's plan for parenting based upon His principles found in scripture.
2. be united in how you want to shepherd the hearts of your children
3. begin praying now for the Lord to capture the hearts of each of your kids.