

The Home: A Context for Christlike Relationships or Rebellion

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Introduction

1. Some basic reminders for spiritual growth;

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2. Helpful do's and don'ts;

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1. Some basic reminders for spiritual growth;
2. Helpful do's and don'ts;
3. Specific ideas for encouraging the growth of the child;

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Understanding the Context of Your Home

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Understanding the Context of Your Home

A Challenging Context
(which leads to possible rebellion)

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**Understanding
the Context of Your Home**
 A Challenging Context
 (which leads to possible rebellion)
 Consider the parents:
 age, position, lifestyle, friends

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**Understanding
the Context of Your Home**
 A Challenging Context
 (which leads to possible rebellion)
 Consider the parents:
 age, position, lifestyle, friends
 Possible Idols –

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Consider the children and teenagers:
 age, position, lifestyle, friends
 Possible Idols –

- 1) Material possessions
- 2) Relationships / acceptance / approval
- 3) Appearance
- 4) Pleasure
- 5) Comfort / laziness

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Consider the children and teenagers :
age, position, lifestyle, friends

Possible Idols –

- 6) Control
- 7) Sexual Satisfaction
- 8) Selfish (vs. serving)
- 9) Self (vs. trusting God)

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Three obstacles to life as a growing
child/teenager:

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child/teenager:

- 1) “God isn’t playing my game.”

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Three obstacles to life as a growing child/teenager:

- 1) "God isn't playing my game."
- 2) "My family is so not perfect."

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Three obstacles to life as a growing child/teenager:

- 1) "God isn't playing my game."
- 2) "My family is so not perfect."
- 3) "The world around me is hard and dangerous."

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Issues for the Parents to Consider

The issue for both parents and children is the heart; nothing has a determinative influence on the teen (i.e., circumstances, people, biology).

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Issues for the Parents to Consider

Although parents exercise some control over children when they are young, as children grow it highlights the reality that the parents never controlled the heart. Parenting provides unprecedented opportunity for the parents to help the children be introduced to adult life.

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Issues for the Parents to Consider

The themes of sovereignty, redemption and grace are paramount.

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Foundation Issues for Wise Living in the Home

God's opinion matters supremely – the fear of the Lord (Proverbs 1:7).

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Foundation Issues for Wise Living in the Home

Children need to listen to their parents and remember the wise things they say (Proverbs 1:8; 6:20).

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Foundation Issues for Wise Living in the Home

The family must be careful in choosing friends – dissociate from the wicked (Proverbs 1:10-15).

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Be sure to help your child understand the difference between a wise and foolish son.

The way both the parents and the teen handle conflict identifies often who is wise and who is foolish.

Be aware of both characteristics (Prov 26:4-5; 12:15; 18:2; 19:1; 20:3; 26:12; 28:26; 29:11; James 3:13-18)

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**Practical Advice for Living
as a Family in Christlikeness**

**First, start with your heart
(Matthew 7:1-5; Proverbs; James;
Galatians 6:1-5).**

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**Pay close attention to
your spouse.
Your first responsibility is to your
spouse.
Work together to stay united.**

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**Remember, God is using your
family to grow you.
Don't fail to see the opportunities
in this moment
to embrace God's good work
in you.**

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**Trust and rest in a sovereign God.
God is in control and is at work in
your family's life to bring about
His glory.**

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Make parenting a priority.

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**Pay special attention to which
direction your child's feet are
pointing spiritually.**

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**Your child's heart is outside
your control.**

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**Consider your discipline and house
rules to determine
if they are wise.**

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**Are you approachable?
Do you serve your children well?
Are you kind and patient?
Do you treat others better than
you do your own child/teen?**

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Pick your battle carefully.

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**Discipline is necessary though
in order to help your teen be
drawn back to God
(Prov 23:13-14; 29:17).**

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**There is an important balance
between freedom and trust,
between responsibility and
consequences, between wisdom
and folly.**

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**As much as possible, try to be
proactive not reactive.**

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Redemption is a process.

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Redemption is a process.

**Come as a fellow-sinner in similar
struggles.**

Humility plays a vital role.

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Redemption is a process.

**Understand that your child needs
as much mercy and forgiveness
as you do.**

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Redemption is a process.

**Recognize that children do not have
the wisdom of years to appreciate
correction and structure.**

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Redemption is a process.

**Help your child see that wisdom is
the beginning of knowledge and is
to be desired
(Prov 3:13-18).**

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Redemption is a process.

**Developing children care more
about their identity in their own
culture than their identity in
Christ.**

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Redemption is a process.

**Help your child see that life is about
worship: loving God and serving
the neighbor.**

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Redemption is a process.

**Be sure to help keep an
eschatological perspective before
both you and your child.**

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Redemption is a process.

**Give your child a vision for the
glory of God (Ps 145:3-21).**

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**Try to find areas you can commend
your child. Look for places where
your child pleases God or at least
shows any form of godly wisdom,
and then communicate it.**

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Other communication tips:

**Be as consistent as possible
in what you tell your child.**

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Other communication tips:

**Make sure in frustration that you do
not disengage from daily
conversation with your child.**

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Other communication tips:

**You want to evaluate the word
choices you make when talking
with your son or daughter
(Eph 4:29-32; James 3:1-12).**

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Other communication tips:

**As much as possible, communicate
with wisdom
(James 3:13-18).**

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Other communication tips:

**Your child will know how to push
your buttons. When this happens,
use pleasant words
(Prov 16:21-24).**

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Other communication tips:

**Try not to be 'good' at monologue;
instead, seek to engage in
conversation.**

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Other communication tips:

**Try to identify with your child
and seek to understand him like
Christ (Heb 2:18).**

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Other communication tips:

**Remember that God calls every
parent to be patient!**

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Other communication tips:

**Never be afraid to communicate
love of God or love of child
to your child.**

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Other communication tips:

**Pray, Pray, Pray!
(with your child as much as
possible too!)**

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**Consider how you as the parent
model the Gospel before
your child.**

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**Provide good reading material for
your child to help aid the growth
process (2 Tim 4:7-16).**

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