

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for May 12, 2019**

**A Biblical Theology of Parenting**  
**2 Timothy 3:14-15**

One biblical example of someone who was raised by a Christian parent was Timothy. His mother, Eunice, and grandmother, Lois, were believers (2 Timothy 1:5). They had taught him the Scripture from his childhood that yielded fruit in adulthood (Acts 16:1-3).

The word of God forms the basis for all ministry through the power of the Holy Spirit, including ministry to our family (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

**1. God is the Creator (Colossians 1:16)**

God created everything that exists, including our children. Therefore, the Creator is the owner and parents are the stewards. His creation of each person is unique in His image.

**2. Man is sinful (Romans 3:10-11)**

All men are sinful, including children. There is no method (enforcement of a strict code of conduct, isolationism, education, building self-esteem, etc.) that can do anything for the heart. The only remedy for sin is forgiveness in the gospel of Christ.

**3. Salvation is by God's grace (Ephesians 2:8-9)**

With people salvation is impossible (Mark 10:27). If we cannot save ourselves, we cannot save anyone else either. We cannot take any credit for the salvation of our children, and we cannot take any blame for the lack of salvation of our children.

One reason why salvation is by God's grace alone is so that no one can boast (Ephesians 2:8-9). The joy of our children walking in truth is a cause for thankfulness, not pride.

**4. Righteousness comes through faith (Romans 3:20-22)**

Through the Law no one is made righteous (Romans 3:20). If God's Law cannot make us righteous, how can we expect to be made righteous by man's law?

Through the Law comes the knowledge of sin, and through the Holy Spirit comes the conviction of sin (John 16:8).

Sanctification is from God who causes spiritual growth (1 Corinthians 3:6), and we cannot take any credit for the spirituality of our children.

## **5. We must obey Christ (Colossians 2:6)**

Regardless of the challenges of our family, we must walk by faith. We are accountable for our response to God, including how we serve others (Hebrews 9:27). We can only boast in regard to ourselves alone (Galatians 6:4-5), not for the spiritual outcome of anyone else.

## **6. We must serve Christ (Romans 12:11)**

Christ's mission for us is to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). Our role is done through teaching (Romans 10:17).

Because parents have a special relationship with their children, they have unique opportunities to help them to understand about Christ. Secondly, parents have unique responsibilities to manage their household (1 Timothy 3:4).

## **7. We must prayerfully trust the Lord (Philippians 4:6-7)**

While we do not have the power to deliver our children from sin, God certainly does, and like Paul we can pray toward that end (Romans 10:1). We can trust not only His will but also His timetable. God is good and His will is perfect, which we will fully understand when we see Him.