

to the next generation.

There's a passage in Hebrews 12 that applies to all Christians, but it has special relevance to dads. It reads: "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled" (vv.14-15).

Think of what could happen in our families if we emptied our hearts of bitterness and made peaceful relationships our goal! If we have been blessed with a wise and loving father, we should be grateful and follow his example. But if our father has failed us, we must rely on God's grace, resolve our anger toward him, and strive to be the kind of dad we never had. It won't be easy, but with our heavenly Father as a perfect example, we can learn to be good dads. —DCM

*A faithful father leads by love
With tender firmness from above,
For he himself has learned from God
The lessons of His chastening rod. —DJJ*

A good father reflects the love of the heavenly Father.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Good Dads

Pursue peace with all people . . . lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble. —Hebrews 12:14-15

Leonard Pitts grew up with a father he describes as physically present but emotionally absent. In his first book on parenting, Pitts openly chronicles his struggle to come to terms with his alcoholic father and the climate of fear he had created in their home. Pitts challenges all men to resolve the resentment toward their absent or abusive fathers instead of passing it on





Our Home Toddlers +

We will consider parenting the toddler/pre-school age group under two headings today:

1. _____ for parenting toddlers and pre-schoolers, Ephesians

6:1-4



2. _____ for parenting toddlers and pre-schoolers,

(Deuteronomy 6:4-7) *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! {5} "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. {6} "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. {7} "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."*

(Proverbs 13:24) *"He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly."*

(Proverbs 19:18) *"Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction."*

(Proverbs 22:15) *"Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him."*

(Proverbs 23:13-14) *"Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. {14} You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell."*



(Hebrews 12:5-11) *"And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; {6} For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." {7} If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? {8} But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. {9} Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? {10} For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. {11} Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."*

(Proverbs 29:15) *"The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother."*

