

"Train up a child in the way he should go" has to do with our dedication of our children. We must keep this from being a meaningless ritual. At this dedication we stand up and vow that we will train that child. We must mean it with all our heart or there is no way the child will be raised up. Paul said, "Children obey your parents in the Lord."

Pr 22:6 — "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." There is a way they should go. Each child has a way he should go and you should train him in that way. We should train up a child according to the name he has been given. It is what you want him to be. It is according to your dedication if the child grows into that name. Eph 4:11-13 — To train up a child in the way he should go is to dedicate that child in his gifting — who he is. We must train the child up in the Law, the Proverbs, and the Scriptures, to dedicate him for the ultimate service of Elohim. This is what the gifts are for — to train for the works of service.

Dt 20:5 — the word *dedicate*. This is to dedicate the child for the service of YHWH. We *dedicate* that child; we train him in the way he should go.

Dedicate — Set aside (devote) for sacred use with solemn rights; to become committed to as a goal or a way of life; given over for a particular purpose in accord with His name. We train the child, putting it in him. This is a solemn oath you make to train a child in the way he should go. We should train our child to respect authority, disciplining on the first command. Command trains respect. The child — dedicated for works of service — this is what the apostolic ministry brings. Eph 4:12 — "...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Messiah."

To dedicate the child is to train him for adulthood so he can be his own in the Body, his head being Yahshua. Parents are commanded to bring their

children up in the discipline of YHWH. This discipline is to begin when the child is dedicated. This is the very act of the dedication; it is the beginning of the vow to train up the child in the way he should go. And the promise to that is that he won't depart from the way he was trained. He will never depart from the way he was trained if *we* are dedicated to it.

Our Master Yahshua became all that His name said He was. He was put on a course and regarded communion so precious in value that He never departed from it His whole life — to not lose it at all cost to Himself. It is a worthy course for us and especially for our children to walk as He walked — in constant fellowship. This is a heart circumcision. Will we train our child up to have communion and never lose it, training him that communion is so valuable and precious that he won't lose it at all cost, even unto death? He will go on according to the training he received from the beginning. The parent must lead the child in the unique calling that our Father has called that child for — to be a servant. We must train them in this way according to how the Holy Spirit spoke to the parent. It is a unique calling.

This doesn't so much allow the child the opportunity to pick and choose what he wishes to learn. In the Body it is pre-determined — the parents know, they have insight so they can pray for that child to walk in that way. He should go that way. He will do this if you train him according to that calling — that unique way — and he won't depart from it. It is from the Holy Spirit. The parents must be dedicated to train up the child according to his name. And if the parents do this, the child will never depart from it.

The child must conform to the bent that he was bent in. You must bend his neck. The parent has absolute control over the child. The Body trusts you to take care of your child. This training has to be like a

dying. You must put it into the child like dye, and he won't depart from it — *and he won't depart from it*. It must dye deeply — the dye becomes part of the fabric. It is changing the nature of the child. This is the type of training we must have for our child. It is the only way — the promise. Training must reach the heart, the rod must reach the innermost parts — this is the purpose of dedication.

Pr 22:6 — Parents must give their allegiance to this task. They can't do this by themselves — it is a great and awesome task.

A stubborn child — in Israel of old it was judged to either stone the child or the parents. Dt 21:18 — "When someone has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father and mother, who does not heed them when they discipline him..." Dt 27:16 — if your son dishonors you and you were honorable, then he will be cursed. Pr 30:17 — This is the result of what will happen. "The eye that mocks a father and scorns to obey a mother will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley and eaten by the vultures." Pr 21:18-21 — This is how we are to be without capital punishment.

In defying the fifth commandment to honor your mother and father, a child must be trained that this is defying God Himself, for parents are God's representatives and to disobey them is to disobey God Himself. Children have to have a way to obey their conscience. They need incentive. Parents must teach and help the child to obey the commandments; then they transfer to the Holy Spirit when they are older. In practice, obedience to parents — a command qualified in the Lord — is transferred to God. Parents are to impress the *commandments* of our God into our children so they will grow up in the way they should go. Dt 6 — There is a promise involved in keeping the fifth commandment for the child — Ex 20:12 — it is a long life. When there is a stubborn child you should

shorten the child's life. Dt 19:20-21 — It limits the family.

Parents were restricted to chastising and disciplining, but never given the power to kill or abort life. In scripture God is the source and Lord of life. The parents take it to the elders, not just relying on a decision based on their own judgment — to keep from polluting the nation. If the parents take their complaint to the elders or a body meeting and the decision comes, then when the child rebelled against the parent the rest of the family would stand with God's law — the standard — no emotions at all, never with the rebellious child or family members. Dt 17:6 — The family order in Israel was so sacred to the fabric of society and the plan of God that the accusing family member wasn't even considered. ("On the evidence of two or three witnesses the death sentence shall be executed; a person must not be put to death on the evidence of only one witness.")

Dt 21:21 — "Then all the men of the town shall stone him to death. So you shall purge the evil from your midst; and all Israel will hear, and be afraid." The men, not the complaining family member, cast the first stone. The parents are to turn over judgment to the community and allow them to execute judgment. The parents don't take it upon themselves — what disrupted one family would attack the whole community. If the parent had refused to bring the child to the judgment of the elders, he would be condoning the child's action and he would be judged right along with the child. It would be good if the whole family left, to not destroy Israel. (Roland Church — We should have excommunicated him, and eventually his whole family, for not disciplining his own daughter.)

Dt 21:21 — The family stood on the side of authority. *ALWAYS STAND ON THE SIDE OF AUTHORITY*. Things can be worked out later for

unity's sake. If you don't, then division has already come in. What disrupted one, disrupted all. There can be no partiality for the sake of keeping the Community together.

Dt 21 — Such behavior came under the curse of God Himself. This was a charge of parental abuse. The parent was abused by the child by not obeying them — he was being rebellious. Dt 27:16 — All the people said, "Amen." If someone doesn't say *amen* there is division. We should say *amen*.

A child must be led to understand this. Then the child won't want to dishonor the parent. The child will receive that because it is the word. In Deuteronomy the community killed one of its own members for being rebellious — it was against God Himself. There is no pity here, no mourning — they deserved to die. For pity would have been the destruction of morality in the Community. Pity would have militated against the word of God. PITY would not be toward the violation, but toward the violated.
November 22, 1988

Mt 5:19 — "Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Therefore, we need to do this or we will be the least in the kingdom. Any pity to the violator will keep one out of the kingdom. 1 Cor 3:16 — "Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?" Pity distracts people from serving God wholeheartedly. Dt 13:6-8; 13:8-11; 19:11-13.

This is for today. This is the restoration of all things. If you hear a word and don't heed it you will be cut off. Acts 3:23 — "And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people." We can't pity people like this or *we* will be brought into judgment and be cut off.

Any other love except the love of our Master is another love. We are in training to judge the nations.

Island Pond

Training Up Our Children in the Way They Should Go