

SERMON: THE STEPS OF A BEAUTIFUL JOURNEY

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Introduction

As I preach from this well-known passage of Scripture, I realize I am “preaching to the choir” and the ushers. By the mere fact that Brother and Sister Tamba brought their two children for prayer and dedication, proves that they are adhering to this beautiful, yet challenging Scripture. Parenthood is a journey. It is a journey of love, hard work, and responsibility. Childhood is also a journey. It is a journey of learning, fun, and development. When Biblical principles are the road maps for these journeys, even though there may be times of frustration, confusion, and disagreement, the destinations will be beautiful and rewarding.

Allow me to commingle a little theology with a little biology. What separates living things from inanimate things is that living things reproduce. Rocks don't reproduce. Rocks don't have babies. Birds reproduce. Birds have baby birds. Viruses reproduce and they reproduce amazingly fast. That's why Covid19 was so hard to subdue. What separates us humans from other living being is that we have superior intellect and we are souls – we don't have souls- we are souls with a body, and our soul nature can communicate with God. Since we have this superior intellect, we must have the wisdom to use our mental acumen properly. This is why godly parenting is necessary. Since we are souls encased in physical bodies of flesh and blood, we must have the correct spiritual connections, which come from spiritual parents. This in not left to instincts; this is left to proper instructions beginning with the parents. Yes, it does take a whole village to rear a child, but the most important people in the village are the parents. (In today's world, some parts of the village may not be good for your child. I'm just keeping it real.) Good parents impart responsible love to their children, and this love imparts the three Ds. These three Ds are the steps to a beautiful journey of parenthood. Let's explore these three Ds.

Exposition**1. Discipline.****2. Direction.****3. Divinity.****Closing Thoughts**

If the three positive Ds are met, you will not have to worry about the fourth D, because your child will not depart from his home training. “As the twig is bent so grows the tree.” Thank God for godly parents! Thank God for obedient children who mature into productive, responsible adults. Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

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