Caring – Focusing on Those That Matter the Most: The Character of the Christian Parent

New Hope Community Church Dr. Jack Bracy, May 28, 2017

"But as for you, <u>continue in what you have learned</u> and have firmly believed, <u>knowing from whom you learned it</u> and how <u>from childhood</u> you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." **2 Timothy 3:14–15, ESV**

In Christian Parenting Our Goals Are:

 That Our Children <u>Grow</u> in <u>Love</u> for God and For Others as They Grow in <u>Submission</u> to The Lordship of Christ

Our Children Belong to God

"Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture." Psalm 100:3, NLT

"But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children." Matthew 19:14, NLT

This Requires

Continual Conversations

Modeling Godliness

Christian Parents Focus On:

Leading Our Children to Jesus

Instilling Biblical Principles

Building Godly Character

NO SUCH THING AS A PERFECT PARENT Our Goal Is to Be Good Enough 2. That They Know and Experience Love and Grow in An Atmosphere of a Safe Haven

"Fathers, don't exasperate your children by coming down hard on them. Take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master." *Ephesians 6:4, MSG*

Things Your Children Need to Know

Respect for Authority

There Is a Right and Wrong Way of Living

There Is a **Consequence** for Sinful Disobedience

3. Our Overall Method: As God Relates to Us, So We Must Relate to Our Children

"For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it." *Ephesians 2:8, GNB*

Grace and Love Should Be the Defining Characteristics of Our Home

What Would This Look Like?

I Must Be <u>Growing</u> and <u>Maturing</u> at The Same Time as My Children

4. To <u>Disciple</u> Our Children to Be Followers of Christ

<u>Pray with</u> Your Children Continually
<u>Teach</u> Your Children the <u>Word</u>

I Need a Plan for <u>When</u> I Am Going to Teach My Children and What I Will Teach Them

You Do Your Job, God Will Do His

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6, ESV