

# The Discipline of Children

Proverbs 29: 15,17

**"If children are disciplined (rod) and reprimanded, you will impart wisdom. If you don't they will bring you shame." / If you correct your child, you will find rest and happiness."**

Most people do not enjoy their children because they do not control them. A mother took her son to a child psychologist and said, Doctor this kid is driving me crazy. The doctor said, Let me get this right, you have just told me you have placed your mental well-being in the hands of a four-year-old.

A mother and daughter were in the mall together and saw another mother and daughter. The little girl was screaming and crying and pulling away from her mother's grip. Seeing this the mother asked her little girl, What does that little girl need. She hoped she would say a *spanking*, but she didn't she said, She needs *a good mother*.

The reason our children are so bad is because you cannot spank grandparents.

## TO SPANK OR NOT TO SPANK THAT IS THE QUESTION

I was often spanked with switches that were kept on top of the refrigerator. My mother or grandmother lowered my pants and switched my legs as I hopped round and round and round them. It left marks. When there were no switches there, they made me go out and get one. I would come in with a little twig and they would say, "Boy! Do you call that a switch? Go out and get a larger one or I'll go get one." (They got what to me looked like a tree limb.)

It worked sometimes but not all the time when I was around 8-years-old I called my grandmother an "old battle ax". She did

not yell or scream or go get a switch. She simply said, This old battle ax is going to make you sit in the corner all day Saturday. She gave me the mother of all timeouts.

She put my chair in the corner and I looked at the corner, three feet from my nose. She put me there when I got up that morning and let me leave when I went to bed. She did *not* let me get up to eat; she brought me a tray. She let me go to the bathroom so that day I went to the bathroom more than I ever had before in my life.

While I was sitting there my friends were outside playing, taking time to look in the window and laugh. I think I cried and begged her all long to let me get up, but my cries were in vain. Proverbs uses the term "rod" and we translate it "discipline" But that day I would rather have had a good old fashioned spanking. *(PS: I never call my Nana a battle-ax again!)*

## AN OLD TIME SPANKING

Bill Parham, a grand Old-time preacher I knew 40 years ago told this story. His father told him to hitch their mule to the wagon by 11 AM. The dad came out at 11 AM and it had not been done. As boys do he forgot. He told his dad this and sat there expecting his dad to go out and hitch it up. That, Bill said, was his fatal mistake. His dad reached up, took the strap off the wall, grabbed his hand and whipped him down the hall, through the kitchen, down the back steps and halfway to the barn. Telling this story, Bill Parham said, *"That was fifty years ago and every time I see a mule, I feel like hitching it up to something."*

These materials are from a book of my sermons, made available to Pastors and missionaries through the years. To receive a free copy via email, email me. [bmarcaurelle@charter.net](mailto:bmarcaurelle@charter.net)