FortheLoveoftheFamilyMinistries MissionariestoAmerica'sForgottenMissionField, the FortheLoveoftheFamilySeries PastorTerryL.Coomer MinistryofElwoodBibleBaptistChurch

theFamily

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Thesemessagesmaybecopiedintheirentiretytoh taskofrearingtheirchildrenforGod.Theyareno mannerortobesold.Thisheadermustbeonanyco questions,pleasefeelfreetocontacttheauthor.

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HowToRaiseGodlyChildren ByDr.RogerVoegtlin,Pastor FairhavenBaptistChurch,Chesterton,IN

Thefirstwouldbediscipline.WhentheBibletalks discipline.Ifyouloveyourchildwithoutdiscipli Proverbs10:1.ThisisawonderfulversethatIwou rearingourchildren."...Awisesonmakethaglad ofhismother."Sorrytosay,I'veseenthatverse pastoredthischurch.But,I'mgladtosaythataw willmakeyouhappierthanthat.Iwouldratherhav largest,mostprosperouschurchintheworld.There childrenforGod.Butyou'llneverhavemoreofab badtoloseyourjob.Youthinkit'sbadtoloseyo yourchildren.Ifyouloseyourchildren,youjust

Haveyouevernoticedthatmostpeoplewholosethe justaboutquitChristianity?There'snothingmore Proverbs13:24weseeoneofthemany,manyverses rodhatethhisson:buthethatlovethhimchastene says,"ForwhomtheLordlovethhechasteneth..."H chastenyourson,you'retreatinghimasabastard. Bible,andtheBibleusesthatstrongterm.We'ves today.Theyhavechildren,andtheirchildrendon't fathercouldn'tcarelessaboutraisingthatillegi supportandnottohelpintheraisingofthatchil child,that'swhatyou'relike.

Thepersonwhohitshischildwithhisfistorwith doesn'tdisciplinehischildandthengetsfrustrat Notspankingisabuse.Proverbs19:18says,"Chaste notthysoulspareforhiscrying."TheBibleissi JamesBible?ThenIfeelsorryforyou.Trainupyo

aboutraisingchildren,ittalksabout ne,you'llproduceabrat.Lookat ldalwaysthinkaboutwhilewewere father:butafoolishsonistheheaviness provenmanytimesinthe28yearsI've isesonmakesahappyfamily.Nothing emykidsturnoutrightthanhavethe 'snomorejoythanraisingyour rokenheartifyoudon't.Youthinkit's urhealth.Butthere'snothinglikelosing aboutloseyourlife.

irchildrenputupawhiteflagand rewardingormoredamning.In ondiscipline."Hethatsparethhis thhimbetimes."TheNewTestament egoesontosaythatifyoudon't NowIdon'tswear—I'mquotingthe eenmanyfatherslikethatintheworld evenknowwhotheirfatheris!The timatechild.He'lldoanythingnottopay d.Godsaysthatifyoudon'tspankyour

hishandinthefaceistheparentwho edandhitshim.Spankingisnotabuse. nthysonwhilethereishope,andlet mple.Youcan'tunderstandtheKing urchildandspankhimwhenhe's young, because if youle thimgettooold, then he' youdon'thouse trainadog when he's young, then y If youdon't spank yourchild and train him when he problem on your hands. "Chasten thy son while there spare for his crying. That tells me you should span worry about his crying. You need to be firm and con the most important thing indiscipline is, it would every time, EVERY TIME.

RemembertheillustrationIusedaboutayearagoc onthecarpetinthelivingroom.Whenhewasapup bringhiminjustthisonetime?"Ifyoubringhim You'reconfusingthatdog.Anybodywhohastrained loveourdogenoughnottoconfusehim, then we oug confusethem.Doiteverytime.Everytime.Fiftyp bythetimehe'sthreeyearsold.Trainupachild Seventy-fivepercentofachild'scharacterisform Whenyou'respankingyourone-ortwo-year-oldont you'redoingalot?"Poof,poof!"Whatdoyouthink andgocrazy, and you stops panking them? Listen, m doingwhentheonlytimeyouseeaproblemiswhen wouldsitandwatchtelevisiondayandnight.I'dg when I'dsitdown there would be cursing on it, or "Roger,Idon'tknowwhyitis,buttheonlytimet you'rehere."SheknewwhatIthoughtabouttelevis there.andletitallsinkin.

If youloveyourchild, you'regoingtolookforpr Andthenyou'regoingtospankthem—five, six, se them"burn."Butthebiggestthingistobeconsist notwantitagain.Peoplesay,"Oh,Idon'twantto themconsistently, and you'llgettotheplacewher afact.Dad, you'vegottotaketheleadershipbeca cases.Proverbs22:15,"Foolishnessisboundinthe correctionshalldriveitfarfromhim."Youseeho strongitis?LookatProverbs23:13and14,"Withh ifthoubeatesthimwiththerod, heshallnotdie.

Canyouimaginethewelfaredepartmentsittingint mepreach?CanyouimaginetheVidette-Messengeror here?Canyouimaginewhattheywouldwrite?ButI' Godissaying, "Withholdnotcorrectionfromthech sayingexactlywhattheBiblesays.Icouldn'tmake himwiththerod,heshallnotdie.Thoushaltbeat soulfromhell."Yousay, "Ilovemychildtoomuch youdon'tspankhim.Youwantafriend, youwantto

sgoingtobelikeanunbrokendog.If ou'vegotaproblemonyourhands. 'syoung,thenyou'vegotabigger ishope..."Anddon'tletyoursoul khimuntilhesettlesdown.Youdon't sistent.Ifsomebodyaskedmewhat betobefirmandbeconsistent.Doit

oncerningmydog?Hedoesn'twalk py,somebodysaid,"Well,can'twe inonetime,you'vesinnedagainsthim. animalsunderstandsthat.Ifwe httoloveourchildrenenoughnotto ercentofachild'scharacterisformed whenhe'syoung,whilethere'shope. edbythetimeheisfive.

hediaper,doyoureallythink you'redoingwhenthekidsscream other,whatdoyouthinkyou're thepreacher'saround?Mymother ooverandvisither.Sureenough, therewouldbesex,andshe'dsay, heyswearontheseprogramsiswhen ion.Normallyshewouldjustsit

oblems. You'regoingtoseeproblems. ven,eightgoodones. Youmake ent.Makeitconsistent,andmakethem spankmykidssooften."Thenspank eyoudon'thavetospankthem.That's usemomsaresofterthandadsinmost heartofachild;buttherodof wstraightforwardthisisandhow oldnotcorrectionfromthechild:for

hebackofthisauditoriumlisteningto or theGaryPostTribunesittingin mnotsayingthis,Godissayingit. ild..."I'mjustillustratingit.I'mjust itanystronger."...forifthoubeatest himwiththerod,andshaltdeliverhis tospankhim."Youdon'tlovehimif coddlehim,youwanttobabyhim. Don'ttellmeyoulovehimifyoudon'tspankhim.

Don'tlistentopsychologists,notevenso-calledC theseeducators,andbytheway,don'tgointoaCh stupidbooksonhowtoraiseyourchildren.Lookat Theproblemisthateversincethislawwaspassed, Eveninourchurcheswherewesaywebelieve,wear allasfirm,asevenaweakerChristianwas25year Catholics25yearsago.Godsaidtospank.Ifweli travelingbywagontrainacrossAmericainIndianc watchingforIndians?Ofcourse!We'dsay,"Man,I wantmykidstohaveanarrowthroughthem."We'dl andwe'dlookformovingbushes."ThereareIndians Satanisoutthereseekingwhomhemaydevour.Iwa Youshouldneverstrikeyourchildinanger.Don't time.Makerules,andgobythem.Letthemknowwha consistently.

Raiseupachildinthewayheshouldgowithdisci TurntoMatthew18:19and20."AgainIsayuntoyou earthastouchinganythingthattheyshallask, it whichisinheaven."Whatcouplecouldreadthatan mywifeandI,ormyhusbandandI,justagreeand prayers."Idon'tknowhowamotherandfathercoul goingtoprayforourchildren.""Forwheretwoor name,thereamIinthemidstofthem."Thatmeans tablewithyourchildrenforfamilydevotions,He's wehavedevotions."Iffornootherreason,He'sth Nowsomeareafraid;theysay,"I'mnotatheologia schoolgraduate."Thathasabsolutelynothingtodo prepared what to say for devotion time. You sit the arereallyyoung, youus esomething like John R. Ri quicklyyouusetheBible,andyoujustreadtheBi nomoreexcitingtimetohavedevotionsthanwheny

I'veheardparentssay, "PastorVoegtlinsaidthis. practicethat, you'regoingtoloseyourchildren. home, toopentheBibleandreaditandexplainit. becauseit'srighthere."IfyoushowaChristianc saysinHisWord, you'vegotarealgoodchancetha thatexciting?GotoEphesianswhereittalksabout this."Ifyouwantto, youcouldjusttakenotesdu themonMondaytoapplyitspirituallytoyourfami dowhatwedo."Thenyouhaveprayerrequests.It's youprayforamissionaryeveryday.Thenyoulook prayforthoseeveryday.OnedaywhenBeckywasa hristianpsychologists.Don'tlistento ristianbookstoreandbuyoneofthose theirchildren;youdon'twantthat. peoplehavegottensofterandsofter. en'tatallasconsistent,wearen'tat sago—Iventuretosayevenmost vedahundredyearsagoandwere ountry,doyouthinkwe'dbe don'twantmykidstodie.Idon't ookbehindrocksandbehindtrees, outtherewhowanttokillus!" nttostressagain,don'tblowup. blowup,andthenletitgothenext ttoexpect,andthenfollowthem

pline, and then, with family devotions. ,Thatiftwoofyoushallagreeon shallbedoneforthemofmyFather dnotthink,"Hey,thatsaystwo.If wepray,Godwillanswerour dreadthisandnotthink,"We're threearegatheredtogetherinmy whenyougatheraroundthekitchen there.Peoplesay,"Idon'tknowwhy ere.You'restartingthedayoffright. n.PastorVoegtlin,you'reaBible withit.Ihaveneveronceinmylife reandyoureadtheBible.Ifthekids ce'sBiblestorybook.Butreal bleandexplainit.Now,tomethere's ourkidsareyoung.

..."or"That'saschoolrule."Ifyou Yourjob,father,istobepriestofthe Yousay,"Kids,webelievethis hildthatwhatwe'redoingiswhatGod tchildisgoingtoturnoutright.Isn't thefamily."Thisiswhywebelieve ringasermon,takeversesdownanduse ly.Explainthat"thisisthereasonwe simple.Yougettheprayersheetand attheneedsofthechurch,andyou younggirlIsaid,"Doyouthink you'deverwanttobeapreacher'swife?"Andshes prayfortheofferingseverydayfortherestofmy family,andtheygettoseeGodanswerprayerinth anythingmorewonderfulthansittingdownwithyour Ahundredyearsagotherewasonedivorcein36.As everytwotoday.AHarvardprofessormadeastudyo Hefollowedthemthroughtheyearsandonlyoneout familythatpraystogetherstaystogether."

Josephus, the unsaved Jewish historian, wrote that the Bible, attenthey would study theological writ Deuteronomy. Today, between the ages of 4 and 14 th hours of television. The average television is on 7 times, Igotrido four television over a quartero f time, a complete was teof time. We few preachers wh thought of as weird by other independent Baptists. preachers can't preach against trash. They think we

LookoverinDeuteronomychapter6, thistellsyou thesewords, whichIcommandtheethisday, shallb themdiligentlyuntothychildren, and shalttalko and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou lie And thous halt bind them for a signupon thine hand between thine eyes. And thous halt write the mupon gates. "Notonly are we to have family devotions, b principles of God's Word throughout the day. We tea we walk. We ought to be looking for opportunities.

Don'tjustsayyouplanto;there'snothingmoreim mate, than your children. Your mate is more importa yourchildrenaren'tgoingtoworkout. Yourmate, walk, or inourday, when you drive, take the child yougotothegrocerystore.Takethemwithyouif youcanbringthemrightupintotheroom.Whenyou gotobedintheevening. The passages aysin them doesthismean?YoujustputtheprinciplesofGod themallthetime. You should be looking for opport thechurchorthereissuccessinthechurch, whate opportunitiestosay,"Thisiswhathappenswhenyo whenyoudoright."Lookforitandteachthem.Lin SomeofthebesttimesIhadwithmykidswerewhen teenagergetstoacertainage, it's typical nowada won'ttalktome."Ifyourteenagerwon'ttalktoy whenhewasyoung. Youcutitoff. Everychildwant don'thaveanythingtosaytothem."Thenyou'reno I'mtalkingaboutatsixorsevenyearsofage.Tal

aid, "No, because I don't want to life!" You pray for the needs of the eirown lives. Canyou think of small child renand teaching them? you know, there's one divorce in f1,005 families who had devotions. of the 1,005 got a divorce. "The

inhisdayatfiveyearsoldtheyread ings,andby15theyhadmemorized n eaveragechildhaswatched20,000 hoursaday.AsI'vesaidsomany facenturyagobecauseitwasawasteof opreachagainsttelevisionare There'ssomethingwrongwhen 'reweird.

thewayitoughttobe.Verse6,"And einthineheart:Andthoushaltteach fthemwhenthousittestinthinehouse, stdown,andwhenthourisestup. ,andtheyshallbeasfrontlets thepostsofthinehouse,andonthy utthere'sagreatneedtoteachthe chthemduringdevotionsandwhen

portantinyourlife, except for your ntbecauseifthatdoesn'tworkout, thenyourchildren.Andsowhenyou renwithyou.Takethemwithyouif yougoonhospitalvisitation.Today sitorrest,talktothembeforeyou orningalsowhenyougetup.What toworkeverywhere.Beteaching unities, whether there are problems in veritis, you'relookingfor udowrong. This is what happens euponline, preceptuponprecept. Iwasjusttalkingtothem.Whena ysfortheparenttosay,"Myteenager ou, it's because youdidn't talk to him stotalktohisparents!Yousay,"I trightwithGod.Talktothem!And ktothemaboutthetypeofpersonto

marry. Youseetheseteenagersbitingatthebitan wantingtohangwiththewrongperson. They'vegot talktothemwhentheywereyoung. Thenallofasu themandyou'reafraidofwhatthey'regoingtodo. them, and yousay, "Boy, Ican'twaituntilyouget youwant."

Iwouldjokesometimeswithmykids.I'dtellDebbi a'mean'guy,rightDebbie?"Sheneededa"mean"gu him!Justtalktoyourchildren.Mychildrendidn't incollege.WhenIsay"date,"realizeIdon'tmean godlycourtship.Youteachthemtoworkhardbutno havetherightkindoffriends,andhowtobenice They'relikeclayandwe'reformingthembyspankin talkingtothem.

IreadaboutGeneralRobertE.Leewalkingthrough somethingbehindhim.Itwashissmallsonjumping hisfootsteps.Heturnedaroundandhuggedhimand myboytohell."Whataresponsibilitywehave.Rem Thereweretearsstreamingdownhercheeks.Herlip anything.Theoldbacksliddenpriestthoughtshewa boytogivetoGod.Oh,howweoughttoprayandgi whogoesintofull-timeserviceisnobetterthans fulltimeservice;I'msayinggiveourchildrentoG 22:6.

Again,theproblemwithourkidsisthattheyhear theyseetheirparentsactacertainwayinchurch a hearandseesomethingelsewhenthedoorisclosed parentstohaveareligioninfrontofpeopleandh a parentssaywiththeirlives,"Iamrichandincrea sa nothing."Weknowhowvaccinationsworkgenerally. againstthemeasles,forinstance, youhaveaweake you.Thechild'sdefensemechanismsattackthefore preventingthechildfromcontractingthedisease. thingtopreventthemfromgettingtherealthing.

That'swhatishappeninginfundamentalismallover buskidscangrowupinthischurchandmakeitand can't?It'sbecausethebuskidsdon'thavewrongC anythingsaying, "whatispreachedisn'treal."All youthpastorandtheteachersandtheysay, "Ilove whohaveparentsvaccinatingthemathome. Theydon parentscomplaining. There'snothingworseyoucan neversawmesadoverthethingsofGod. Ifyousit

dwantingtodatethewrongperson, thewrongplansbecauseyoudidn't ddenyouputhandcuffsandbarson Andtheybalk.Butifyoutalkto married.Andthisisthetypeofguy

e, "Youwantastrongguy. Youwant ybecauseshe'stoonice. Shegot wanttodateuntiltheywerefreshmen aworldlydate. I'mtalkingabout tlovemoney. Youteachthemto totheweakpeoplebutnotfollowthem. gthem, and then teaching them and

thesnowonedaywhenheheard fromsteptostep,tryingtowalkin prayed,"God,helpmenevertolead emberHannahprayingforason? sweremovingbutyoucouldn'thear sdrunk,butshewasprayingfora veourchildrentoGod.Someone omeonewhodoesn't.Idon'tmean od.Seek,ask,knock.ClaimProverbs

onethingpreachedinthepulpit,and andaroundotherChristians,andthey athome.They'velearnedfromtheir avenothingrealathome.Theyseetheir sedwithgoodsandhaveneedof y. Ifyouwanttobevaccinated nedformofthemeaslesinjectedinto ignentitiesandformantibodies, Wetaketheweakenedformofthereal

America.Doyoueverwonderwhy somekidsfromregularattenders hristianexamples.Theydon'thave theydoislistentothepreacherand this."Buttherearesomechurchkids 'thaveachance.Theyheartheir do.Mykidssawmemad,butthey aroundandyoucomplainaboutyour state in the ministry or yours state in serving God, gone! A reyoulistening? Don't vaccinate your child to teach them the Bible, true Bible principles at h and by your life.

Next, youraiseupachildinthewayheshouldgo missingtoday. Ecclesiastes9:10says, "Whatsoever might..."Proverbs6:6-9says, "Gototheant, thou wise: Whichhavingnoguide, overseer, orruler, Pr gatherethherfoodintheharvest. Howlong wiltth therearetwogreatprinciplestaughtinthe Bible andoneiswork. You'renotgoing to succeed withou faith, you'llwork. You'renota Bible-practicing C lazygeneration. I'vehad Christiansthink theresh "They'reworking metoohard." We'reliving in age tokeep from work. If you teach yourchild renthat, they could be.

Someyearsback, we started seeing manychildren of devil.Therewasareaction,anditwasthewrongo protectmychildren.I'mgoingtoputmyarmsaroun togetthem.I'mgoingtobabymychildren."You'll Godsays, "Sixdaysshaltthouwork." Godsayswe'r ourbrow.Weshouldteachourchildrentoenjoywor wrongwithmyteenageson.He'ssolazy."Lookint SpurgeonwroteanarticlethatIthoughtwastremen yourson, first of all, neverlethimknow hardship yourarms."Whenmychildrenwereyoung, especially small,theteenagegirlsjustwantedtocarryhima "Nobodypicksupmyson.Nobody." Yousay, "Whatif problem.Whatdoyoudowhentheyfalldown?Say," Now, you first of all see if there's blood running. cornerofyoureye.Butinmostcases,theirfeelin falldown,say,"Hey,you'reokay.Getupandjust mean."No,todoanythingelseismean.

Wehaveacollege,andIbelievewehavemanyofth anyproblemwithourstudentsitisthattheyhave church.SomethinkbeingagoodChristianisbabyin youwhohearababyscreamandsay,"Ah,it'smine! beforawhile.Icanrememberacertainmotherwhe aboyshecarriedaround.Whenshewouldcarryhim hers,andhisfeetweredowntoherknees.Shepick Iknewhewouldbecomeasissy,andhewasthegrea worthlessforGodtoday.I'mnotsayingneverpick certainageandhecanwalkaround,don'tcarryhim

you'regoingtolosethem!They're renagainstChristianity.You'vegot omebyfamilydevotions,bytalking,

byteachinghimhowtowork.That's thyhandfindethtodo,doitwiththy sluggard;considerherways,andbe ovidethhermeatinthesummer,and ousleep,Osluggard?..."Understand ifyou'regoingtosucceed:oneisfaith tboth.Ibelievethatifyouhave hristianifyoudon'twork.Weliveina ouldbeaunionstewardinthechurch! nerationthatdoeseverythingitcan you'regoingtodestroymuchofwhat

famouspreachersgoingtothe ne.Thatreactionwas,"I'mgoingto dmychildren, and nobody's going destroythemjustasmuchthatway. esupposedtoworkbythesweatof k.Yousay,"Idon'tknowwhat's hemirror. Youmadehimthatway. dous.Hesaid,"Ifyouwanttoruin .Whenhe'salittlechild.carryhimin Jeff, because the churchwasso llthetime.Ihadtolaydownthelaw: hefallsdown?"That'sanother Shutup.Quitcrying,andgetup." Seeifthere'sabrokenarmoutofthe gsarehurt.Don'tbabythem!Ifthey keeponwalking."Yousay,"That's

ebestkidsofAmerica.Butifthere's beenbabiedbytheirparentsandhome gpeople.Therearesomeothersof "Youruntopickhimup.Lethim nourchurchwasrealyoungwhohad around,hisheadwaslevelwith edthatkidupandcarriedhimaround! testoneweeverproduced.He's upachild.Butoncehegetstoa everyplace;don'tbeholdinghimall

thetime.

Spurgeonwentonandsaid, "Ifyouwanttoprevent himfromeverykindoftoil." Yousay, "Whatdoest everlethimparticipateinthecross-countryrace. andthinkwewereguiltyofchildabusebecausefiv thelake. Itshowswheretheycomefrom! Wedothos anopportunity. Letthemtoilalittlebit. Icould giv on, though, and says, "Donotsufferhimtostruggl "pickingonhim." Youknowthat, don'tyou? Whenhe fault. "Pityhimwhenheoughttobepunished." Go "appreciatetheschool, but...." "Supplyallhisw i "Avertalldisappointments. Preventall troubles.... tutorhimtobeareprobatetobreakyourheart." Y Youthinkyoulovehim? No, youloveyourself. You' he'llcurseyou.

Spurgeongoesonandsays, "Ifyouwanttorescueh Whatmadeourcountrygreat?Oneofthethingsthat wereputinthepositionwherewehadtotoil.I'm beingbuilt, when we were being attacked by Indians you'dhave the child behind abush! You'd build you helped?Thelittlechildren would help. You would think helped?Thelittlechildren would help. What donothing but crab and get introuble. Teach them

Now, inourday and a geyouhave to look forwork. growing up, we had a college garden. We grewfood f money. Mykidsdidn't like it, but lloved it be cau they we reweeding, planting, harvesting, and every t You ought to be gladif we can find some we eding, m around the property. Don't let them fuddle-duddle a something. We're raising lazy reprobates! If there' righthere. "Puthim where he has to work." Expose training wheels away from him. Let him fall down.

Weusedtohaveboxingeveryweek.Yousay,"Ihate nogood.IfIgethitinthenose,Itearup,oh,I h therewithsomebody(andhewasalousyboxer;heh kidsare.Theykindofdancearound.Theydon'tsay youdon'thitmehard,Iwon'thityouhard."I'ds stopping."Forsomeofyouthisishard.Compareit astheymadethisgreatcountry.Weareasoftgene generation.Ifyoudothingslikethis,you'llmake Spurgeonsaid,butIguaranteeinhisdayhehadto CanyoubeagoodChristianandbelazy?No.Canyo

hisbeingusefulintheworld,guard hatmean?"Well,thatmeansdon't We'vehadcollegestudentscomehere e-year-oldswouldberunningaround ethingsforapurpose,togivethem giveyoualotofotherexamples.Hegoes e."Youknow,theteacherisalways he strugglesinschool,it'sneverhis totheprincipal.Justtellhimhowyou ishes."Givehimeverythinghewants. "(thisisSpurgeon)"...andyou'llsurely ouwill.I'veseeniteverysingletime.

im,puthimwherehehastowork." madeourcountrygreatisthatwe talkingaboutwhenthecountrywas .Youtalkaboutnaturalchildbirth, rownhome,andwhodoyouthink rowyourowncrops,andwhodoyou dochildrendotoday?Sitaroundand towork!

Irememberasmychildrenwere orthecollegeinordertosave setherewasonefulldayaweekwhen hingelse—whentheyhadtowork. owing,orsomethinglikethat round,begladforthemtodo sanythingthatwe'reweakin,it'sthis himtodifficulties.Takethose

te boxing."Idon'tlikeiteither.I'm hateit!Butwehadit.Jeffwouldgetin h atedboxing),butyouknowhow y anything,butthey'rethinking,"If ay,"IfIdon'tseeblood,you'renot towhatourforefatherswentthrough ration,andwe'reraisingasofter amanoutofhim.Iillustratedwhat ugherthingsthanthisinmind. o ubeagoodbusworkerandbe lazy?No.CanyoubeagoodChristianschoolteache lazy?No!Again,I'llsaythenumberoneproblemwe notgreatsin.Itisn'ttheacademics.It'slazines s BobJones,Sr.,usedtosay,"I'dratherseesomebo character."Atleastyoucanmakesomethingoutof But,no,theysleepinandcan'tevenwakeuptoge excuses.

Christianshavetheideathatiftheysay, "Yes,si everything'sokay. They'vebeentaughttohaveaph succeedinthisworldexceptweknowhowtosweat, don'tteachthemtowork. Allover America, especia worthlesspeoplewithnicehaircutswhodressandt lookatthemandsay, "Man, they'vegotpotential." werenevertrained. Listentothisquotefrom Teddy

Itisnotthecriticwhocounts;notthemanwhopo stumbles,orwherethedoerofdeedscouldhavedon belongstothemanwhoisactuallyinthearena,wh sweatandblood;whostrivesvaliantly;whoerrs,a again;becausethereisnoteffortwithouterroran actuallystrivetodothedeeds;whoknowsthegrea devotions;whospendshimselfinaworthycause,wh leastfailswhiledaringgreatly,sothathisplace

Fourthly, weraiseupchildrentheBiblewaybylov them.MostpeopleknowthatBillySunday'schildren heardpeoplesaythatprovesGod'spromisesaboutt hischildren'sfailureprovesthatBillySundaydid theBible.Hediedofshockwhenanewspapermanca front-pagestoryaboutoneofhiskidswhowasthro Moody'sonesonwenttothedevil.Heputhiminch Massachusetts.Theboygaveittothedevil.Overa whosekidsgobad,andthedevilwhispersinourea can't."Don'tliftmanaboveGod'sWord.God'sWord it'sbecauseheputhisdesires,hisambitions,in

IlovetheillustrationofJohnR.Rice.Some"big thinkthey'rebigshots)cameonaFridayafternoon Ricesaid,"No,I'vegottoleave.Ihaveanimport havetoseeyou.You'vegottoseeme."Dr.Ricesa can'tbreak."Theybothleftandthisguyhappened himplayingwithhiskidsinhisyard.Thenexttim liar.Yousaidyouhadsuchanimportantappointmen Dr.Ricesaid,"No,I'mnotaliar.Myappointment

e rorSundaySchoolteacherandbe havewithourcollegestudentsis s.It'ssoftness.It'salackofcharacter. dywithbadcharacterthanno somebodywhohasbadcharacter. ttoclass.They'realwaysmaking

r"and"No,ma'am"andtheysmile, onyfront.Godsayswe'llnot andwesinagainstourchildrenifwe llyinlargechurches,thereare alklikefundamentalists.Youmay They'vegotnothingbecausethey Roosevelt:

intsouthowthestrongman ethembetter.Thecredit osefaceismarredbydustand ndcomesshortagainand dshortcoming;butwhodoes tenthusiasms,thegreat h oattheworst,ifhefails,at shallneverbewiththosecoldand

ingthemandspendingtimewith allwenttothedevil.LatelyI've rainingupachildaren'tvalid.No, n'traiseuphischildrenaccordingto merunningupandshowedhima wninjailbecauseofwickedsin.D.L. argeofhissecondschoolin ndoveragainwehearofpreachers rs,"Ifhecan'traisehiskids,thenI rd saysyoucan.Ifhiskidswentbad, frontofhisfamily.

shot"(andIhatepushypeoplewho andsaid,"I'vegottoseeyou."Dr. antappointment."Themansaid,"I id,"No,thisisanappointmentthatI todrivebyDr.Rice'shomeandsaw ehesawDr.Ricehesaid,"You'rea tthatyoucouldn'tmeetwithme." withmykidsisthemostimportant appointmentIhaveoftheweek."Ipracticedthata

Youcan'tjustsayyourchildrenareimportant, you EverytimeIseeaboyorgirlgobadoramarriage kidreallygobadandI'vehadachancetotalkto havedevotionswithyouonaregularbasis?"Every "Didyouhavefamilytimestogether?"Everysingle listeningtome, Dad?You'vegottoshowyourkids toyou, Dad. If there's amanin the home, it's up nothard, notifyouloveyourchildren.

Idon'tlikeusingmyselfasanexample,butIlove usedtothrillmetosetupfamilyactivities."We' schoolhereandgotothezoo."YouNEVERhavetoc sometimesyoumayconflictwiththeschool.Ifyou notsayingjustcomeinlateallthetime.Especial familytimes.Youpoppopcorn.Now,listen,youyou doesn'tcomeinabag,andyouhavetogetoneoft machineeither.Ashaker!Wehappenedtohaveafir fashioned.

That's all you have to do to have fun with small ki squeal, and it's somuch fun.

There'ssomethingelseyoucando.Havepizza.You fromPizzaHut.Makeit.Yousee,that'swhatmakes notasgoodasPizzaHut."Well,ithelpsyourdiet sundaes.Yougettheicecream.Itdependsonhowm havevanillaandchocolateandstrawberry, whether can, or whatever. It makes a messbecause they make Idon'tknowwhatitis, butthere'ssomethingspec withthekidsanddoingsimplethings.Likeapicni money."Ifyouhavetospendmoneyonit,it'sprob "Wehaveourfamilynight.Wewatchvideos."Oh,co spendthemoneyyouwouldhaveonameal.GetAldi' don'thavetohavemoney. Youhavetohaveheart. Y goonthatpicnicandyouplay"KicktheCan."You with.Or, you hike and getlost. I always gotlost, themonmyback.DoyouunderstandthepointI'mma timewhenyouallpileintothecar.Youdon'thave suggestthatyoualwaysdon'thavetogotorelativ Youcancamp.

Raiseupachildinthewayheshouldgo,andIbel takesdiscipline,ittakesteachingtheWordofGod Christianity),teachingthemhowtowork,andshowi lso.

mustshowthemthey'reimportant. gobad,everytimewe'veeverhada him,Iaskthatchild,"Didyourdad singletimetheanswerwas,"No." timetheysaid,"No."Areyou youcare.It'snotuptomom,it'sup tohim.Yousay,"That'shard."No,it's

dplanningthingsforourfamily.It lldothis,we'lldothat,we'llcutoutof onflictwiththechurch,but do,theschoolcomesinsecond.I'm lywhenthey'reyoung,it'seasytoplan ngcouples.Theyhavepopcornthat heseshakers.I'mnottalkingabouta eplace,soitmadeitevenmoreold

ds.Theyloveit.Theygiggleandthey

say,"Wedothat."No,no,no,not itfun.Youmakeit.Yousay,"It's .ThethingIlikedthemostwasmaking uchmoneyyouhave, whetheryou youcangetsomewhippedcreamina it.But,boy,dotheyhavefun. ialaboutmomanddadtakingtime c.Parentsalwayssay,"Idon'thave ablynotthebestactivity.Peoplesay, meon.Goonapicnic,andjust shotdogsandday-oldbread!You ouhavetoloveenoughtoplan. You buythesegadgetstomakes'mores andmygirlswouldcryandI'dcarry king?Ibelieveinavacation-a togoanyplacefancy,butIwould es'houseseither.Youcangetatent.

ievethathe'llnotdepartfromit.It (youteachingtheWordofGodand ngthemyoulovethem.RememberI saidthatlovewithoutdisciplinemakesabrat?Let disciplinewithoutlovemakesarebel.Kidslookfo communicatewell."I'mnotthebestatiteitherbu Thisiswhylloveyou.I'mprayingforyou."They

IhavetoconfessthatI'maveryprivatepersonan Ihadtowardmywifeinfrontofmychildren.Butw whentheywerearound,evenwhentheywereteenager hee,hee.Oh,ho,ho.Lookatmomanddad."Theyli pickherupandIwouldtwirlheraround.Andthek hee."YouknowwhatIthinkthissaid?"All'swell home.Kidslookforaffection.Theylooktoseeif

Youcanraisechildrenupright.Istress,don'tra Godwilltakecareofthat.Asyourpastor,Idon't betterthanthosewhoarenot.Wepaymoreattentio themissionfieldandwehavetotrainthem.ButI' Idon'tthinkanymoreoffull-timeworkersthanan loveGodandtoliveforGod.Whenyougettobemy breakyourlife.Totheproportionthatyouraiset amountofjoyfromthetimetheyleaveyourhome.

Peoplesaytheylovebabiesbutnotthe"terriblet hadspeakerssay,"Whentheygettobeteenagers,y Preachersevenpreachonthatinthesensethatit' shouldgetbetter.Yousee,whenachildisalittl Butashegetstobeoneyearold,youcanbeginto sure,heoughttobewellundercontrol.Itshouldn fault.

Whentheygettobeteenagersitshouldbeajoyful forGod.Thenwhentheygetmarriedandtheypickt childrenandyouseethemraisingtheirchildrenbe thewayitoughttobe),itgetsmorewonderfulall exceptforonething—I'dliketoseemygrandkidsg thinkofanythingmorewonderfulthanthat?Tosee livingforGod.Therecouldnotbeagreaterblessi metellyousomethingelse rlove.Youmightsay,"Idon't tatleastwritethemnotes."Iloveyou. lookforthingslikethat.

dIdidn'tshowtheaffectionthatIwish henIdid,whenIkissedmywife s,youknowwhattheydid?"Hee, kedit.Itsaidsomething.Iusedto idswouldgo,"Ha,ha,ha.Hee,hee, withmomanddad."All'swellinour youcare.

isethemuptogointofull-timeservice, thinkthoseinfull-timeserviceareany ntothembecausewesendthemto lltellyoufromthebottomofmyheart, yothergoodkid.Trainthemupto age,itwillmakeyourlifeoritwill hemupforGod,thatwillbeyour

wo's,"andthe"rottenthree's."We've ouwanttoputtheminacage." stobeexpected.That'swrong.It etinybaby,he'sgoingtocryattimes. disciplinehim.Attwoyearsold,for 'tgetworse.Ifit'sworse,it'syour

time,anexcitingtimeastheyblossom herightmate,andtheystarthaving tterthanyouraisedthem(andthat's thetime.Idon'twanttolivelong rowupandliveforGod.Canyou about10or12ofyourgrandkidsall ng!