

# Counseling Children

Children today grow up in a world filled with conflict, violence, materialism, substance abuse, child abuse and divorce. The stresses placed upon us and them are numerous; however, as parents we are responsible for bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. If the parent does not fulfill their responsibility the child will not develop to his or her full potential for God.

If the parent is self-centered, unloving and abusive to a child, that child will grow up feeling insecure, undisciplined and will not develop a healthy self-concept. The Bible has a lot to say about children.

1. Children are a gift from God (Ps. 127:3).
2. Children need to be trained for life (Prov. 22:6).
3. Children need parents who are committed to the task of teaching biblical precepts (Deut. 6:7-11).
4. Children need parents who will discipline them in love (Prov. 19:8; 23:13; Eph. 6:4).
5. Children are loved by Jesus (Mk. 10:13-16).
6. Children must be allowed to be children (I Cor. 13:11).
7. Children are taught to obey (Eph. 6:1; I Tim. 3:4, 12).
8. Children left to themselves bring shame to parents (Prov. 29:15).
9. Children are known by their doings (Prov. 20:11).
10. Children can and need to be taught to love God (I Sam. 2:11, 18, 21; 3:1).