B. The Procedures of Discipline

1. Companionship

"7 But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children.

8 So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us."

I Thessalonians 2:7-8

Rules without relationship equals rebellion.

2. Communication

"17 And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing,

18 since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

19 For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

Genesis 18:17-19

3. Chastisement

"Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction." Proverbs 19:18

4. Comfort

"For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights." Proverbs 3:12

HOW DO YOU NEED TO APPLY GOD'S WISDOM TO YOUR MODERN FAMILY?

MODERN FAMILY

God's Wisdom For Today's Families Modern Family Parenting Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Modern families have major problems! We no longer live in a culture where the majority of homes include two parents with 2.3 kids and a white picket fence. The reality is modern family life is extremely complex, often dysfunctional and very painful. Is there any hope? YES! God has timeless wisdom for today's families. He knows and cares and wants to help your family thrive.

"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Joshua 24:15

B. You're invited to attend this powerful series on the modern day family. You will discover how to have healthy relationships in whatever family situation whether single, married, kids, empty nester, whatever.

Modern Family Purpose
Modern Family Busyness
Modern Family Singleness
Modern Family Marriage
Modern Family Technology
Modern Family Communication
Modern Family Hurt
Modern Family Sexuality
Modern Family Parenting
Modern Family Finances

C. TEXT: Ephesians 6:1-4 (Pew Bible/Pg. 1150/New Test.)

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MODERN FAMILY PARENTING

Both parents are responsible to God for raising their children. (6:4a)

"My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother;" Proverbs 1:8

Why the emphasis on the father in this verse? (6:4a)

- Because fathers tend to neglect this responsibility.
- Because fathers are the head of the house.

I. KINDNESS (6:4b)

- A. The Explanation Of This Commandment
 - What does, "Do not provoke your children to wrath" mean?

It does not mean to never oppose or upset your child.

"For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them."

I Samuel 3:13

• It does mean not to discourage your child by harmfully irritating them.

"Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged." Colossians 3:21

B. The Examples Of This Commandment

✓ Lying
 ✓ Abuse
 ✓ Favoritism
 ✓ Neglect
 ✓ Constant Criticism
 ✓ Hypocrisy
 ✓ Tension Between Parents
 ✓ Overprotection

✓ Unrealistic Expectations ✓ Comparison

II. INSTRUCTION (6:4c)

"Training" means to educate your children in the Lord. (See Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 20-21)

- **A.** The Message to Communicate (vs 4-5, 20-21)
 - "37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

38 This is the first and great commandment." Matt 22:37-38

B. The Model To Communicate (v.6)

Nothing happens through you that doesn't first happen in you. Therefore, say it with your life as you say it with your lips.

"The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master." Luke 6:40

C. The Methods To Communicate (v.v.7-9)

- **1.** Speech (v.7)
- **2.** Symbols (v.8)
- **3.** Surroundings (v.9)

III. **D**ISCIPLINE (6:4c)

"Admonition" means to discipline your children in the Lord.

A. The Purposes of Discipline

1. To Drive Out Sin

"Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me." Psalm 51:5

"Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him."

Proverbs 22:15

2. To Communicate Love

"He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly." Proverbs 13:24

3. To Deliver From Hell

"13 Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die.

14 You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell." Proverbs 23:13-14

4. To Find Rest

"Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul." Proverbs 29:17