



The Duties Of Parents

J.C. Ryle

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Often children are not trained the way they should go, for when they grow up they do not walk with God. Bishop Ryle shows parents their duty to go forward and obey God's commands. Pamphlet

The Duties Of Parents Details

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From Reader Review The Duties Of Parents for online ebook

Jenifer says

A super quick read, but really details our responsibility as parents.

Jimmy says

Readers should probably know a little about the author--that he was an Anglican Bishop of Evangelical persuasion who lived most of his life in the 1800s (he died midway through 1900). Yet, this short work turns out to be still relevant for parenting today. There were nuggets of wisdom offered throughout the work. For instance, the author brings out a great point that it's easy for parents to see what other parents does wrong. Yet in the midst of this parents must examine themselves that they are parenting in a way that honors God. I like the point Ryle made about making sure we teach our children to obey even if they don't understand, but that they understand your love for them and care should be something they trust in even if they don't understand with their feeble minds. I thought that was a good analogy of our Christian faith with God the Father as well. Also a good point was made about not spoiling your kids because a spoiled child in the end is not going to be a happy child. I also was much encouraged by the point the author made that sometimes it's okay to teach our children spiritual matters even if they might not understand it right then and there (of course, that's not an excuse to work hard in bringing things down to the kid's level). This work was an encouragement for me as a new father of a child less than one year old--and as I realize the need of our times is Christian parents to raise up their children under the admonition of the Lord and the discipleship of children under a Christian worldview.

Jeremy Zilkie says

The BEST parenting book I have ever read!

There are a lot of parenting books out there and there are a ton of "theories" about the different approaches to and aspects of parenting. Usually, they are contained in a book of about 200 pages and yet only 30-40 pages of the material is actually useful and worthwhile.

Ryle's book, though very old (written in the 1800s), cuts to the chase and instructs parents in THE MOST IMPORTANT goals of parenting. Raising a child to love Jesus, resist the devil, and understand the dangers of this world and the dangers of their own human flesh and impulses-is not easy. Ryle, in short chapters, effectively addresses the important pieces of godly parenting. Beware of all of the psychology that has been developed in the last 50 years. Some of it is good and wise counsel, but it can also distract from the most important actions of parenting.

If I was to write a book about parenting, this is the book I would write and in the manner it is written.

Christine says

Maybe our favorite parenting book (actually booklet) of all time. We used to buy them and give them as baby shower gifts. Ryle is an excellent teacher.

Karen says

Another must read on the importance of training our kids while they are young.....train them in the way they should go and they will not depart from it....There is a difference in giving them all they require to become good people and training them (being an example) of how to become good people and living for eternity with our Heavenly Father.

Adam Calvert says

Wow. Read this book and read it again! From a theologian in the 1800s this book had a great way of speaking straight to the heart from theological and Biblical principles on what parents ought to do in raising their children. Solidly Biblical, yet very easy to read in a devotional style.

Even if you don't have kids it's a terrific read in regard to personal sanctification!

Stephanie says

Practical and sound wisdom for parenting.

Maria Vargason says

This is the best book on parenting--ever.

Mark A Powell says

Though first published more than a century ago, this little booklet from Ryle contains principles of parenting that still resonate today. He reminds Christian parents that their main concern is the eternal souls of their children, not primarily their comfort or convenience. Although much of his counsel seems to run counter to modern culture's approach to rearing children, it lines up perfectly with Scripture's admonitions to parents. Ryle has written a highly helpful, highly recommend book.

Anna says

A short and compelling book that encouraged me to be more diligent in teaching my children to pray and read their bible even at the tender ages of 3 and 2. It was challenging in many ways and a little frustrating as Ryle seems to tell you to require obedience and trust from your children but doesn't really expand on how. I suppose I need to take the long term view and it is unlikely to have a toddler who is trusting my judgment and obeying me all the time but hopefully I will have 10 year olds who will be much more willing to do these things after many years of training.

Mike E. says

[Nice PDF of the book available here: <http://www.chapellibrary.org/files/ar...>]

Classic Ryle, 17(!) clear and concise points; short booklet worth reading . . Ryle gives godly counsel from another generation which ours needs to hear:

12. Train them with a constant fear of over-indulgence.

This is the one point of all on which you have most need to be on your guard. It is natural to be tender and affectionate towards your own flesh and blood, and it is the excess of this very tenderness and affection which you have to fear.

Fathers and mothers, I charge you solemnly before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, take every pains to train your children in the way they should go. I charge you not merely for the sake of your children's souls; I charge you for the sake of your own future comfort and peace. Truly it is your interest so to do. Truly your own happiness in great measure depends on it.

Children have ever been the bow from which the sharpest arrows have pierced man's heart.

Rachel Schultz says

A power boost for parents that takes not long to read and is what like \$4 on Amazon. Writing so crisp. Chooses just the right word. Straight to your heart.

Jeremy says

I began reading this book when we had a miscarriage. This book is filled with much practical information such as taking children to church, teaching them how to pray, requiring obedience, etc. No major breakthroughs, which makes me very thankful for my upbringing.

Alan Witchalls has edited the language into modern English, and it seems that certain parts have been added. For example, in various sections he mentions the Internet (24) and DVDs (86). So besides obvious parts, it's

difficult to know exactly what is Ryle's and what is Witchalls's. I'd like to read Ryle's version, just to see if the parts that I disagreed with were Witchalls's additions.

4.5 stars (maybe because of Witchalls)

- 1: reality of death
 - 2: edited into modern English
 - 10: parents don't want to be told about their kids' problems
 - 11: kids' desires aren't naturally good and need to be trained
 - 15: lots of good comparisons
 - 16: [fear section is incomplete; in a fallen world, fear and love are not mutually exclusive (Prov. 1:7, 9:10)]
 - 17: [false dichotomy in notes: discipline vs. love]
 - 19: training does much to determine our end; precious window of opportunity
 - 20: delusion that parent cannot train their children
 - 23: souls never die
 - 24: pampering/pandering is cruelty
 - 28: tales of irrelevant little storybooks
 - 29: don't skip parts of the Bible
 - 32: prayer leads to spiritual prosperity
 - 33: engine, weapon, key, hand, silver trumpet, cry
 - 34: don't let children pray flippantly
 - 37–39: regular church attendance is a blessing; families should stay together, not separate into adults and children
 - 43: teach children to believe in you and God (strengthening/training their faith)
 - 44–45: don't cruelly withhold reasons, but at the same time, children should learn to trust their parents
 - 48: require obedience
 - 53: require the truth
 - 55: avoid idleness and encourage work; don't let imaginations breed mischief
 - 56: Sodom (Ez. 16:49) and David (2 Sam. 11:1) were idle
 - 57: teach children to use their time well
 - 60: allowing children to have their own way ruins their souls
 - 61: Eli and David failed to discipline their own children
 - 69: discipline is good for children's souls' health; constant indulgence leads to selfishness and unhappiness
 - 72: children learn much from our example; [school influence is diminished]
 - 73: Penelope's loom as a metaphor for undoing all the good [misapplication]
 - 75: sin's power means that we can't simply follow a formula and expect everything to turn out right
 - 76: knowing sin's power should make us more diligent in training children well
 - 79–80: persevere, because God's promises do not arrive all at once
 - 82–83: Jacob acknowledges twice that children come from God
 - 85: God uses means
 - 86: disciplines consistently; much formation happens at home; foundations for character are laid; tastes/opinions are formed; trained children lead to contented parents
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David Schultz says

Helped me to review and refocus on the importance and urgency of training up a child in the way he should go.

Michael Jones says

the context of this book is another time, but the principles still have much to offer and remind us of.
