

Setting and Rethinking Goals for Our Kids

Judges 13:8-12



I set goals ...



Cuz I want my children to be successful.



Judges 13:8 and 12

- 8 Then Manoah intreated the LORD ...**teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born. (give us more instructions about this son who is to be born.)**
- 12 AV And Manoah said, **How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?**
 - NKJ ... What will be the boy's rule of life, and his work?"
 - Message - what do you have to tell us about this boy and his work?
 - Youngs - what is the custom of the youth—and his work?
- **THIS IS WHAT we would and should ask as parents!**

Here are several ways that parents try to prepare their children to be successful.

- Developing special skills - Sports, Singing, Acting, Academics, Moneymaking
- Psychological adjustment - Self-esteem, **not** esteeming others
- “Saving” our children - Getting the child to pray the “sinner’s prayer”
- Leading in family worship - Going through external religious activity.
- Having well behaved children - Training the child to have good external manners.
- Giving them a Good education – good grades, etc.
- Controlling them - their every action.

From Shepherding a Child’s Heart

What could be better?

- It is one thing to be so involved in these objectives that we have listed.
- It is another thing to desire and determine to have scriptural objectives or goals.
- Let me ask you, “What goal is BIG enough and all-encompassing enough to be sufficient for all areas and ideas of developing our children?”

Ted Tripp asks it this way.

(Shepherding a Child's Heart)

- “What general biblical objective will guide and focus your view of life and therefore your training of your children? **What is a worthy biblical goal?**”
- He turns to the first question of the Shorter Catechism for his answer.

QI: What is the chief end of man?

- A: Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever.
- Our chief end is twofold:
 - To glorify God supremely and forever.
 - To enjoy God completely and forever.


Is there ANY other goal worthy of our time, our kids, our Lord?

- Are you willing to start HERE with your child?
- Your child will grow up in this sick and diseased culture that has abandoned God.
- If you teach them to use their abilities, aptitudes, talents, and intelligence to make themselves a success without God at the center – without all for God – you turn them away from Him.
- If you do not teach your child the CHIEF end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever, you are teaching him to be culturized here by the world's terms and rules.

Some ways a parent can teach their child to function **in this culture** on its own terms.

- By pandering to their desires and wishes.
- By teaching them to find their **soul's** delight in going places and doing things.
- By attempting to satisfy their lust for excitement.
- By filling their young lives with distractions from God.
- By giving them material things and taking delight in their delight in possessions.
- By being more worried about what other people think than by what God thinks.

- We train our kids in the cults of materialism and hedonism (self-rules-the-day-isms)
- No wonder we lose our kids to the world.
- We fail to think clearly and solely about our CHIEF END. (Deut. 6:5,6)
- We are creatures made in the image of God and FOR God and so are our kids!
- We only find joy ourselves when we please HIM. Psalm 73:25

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- Let us set biblical goals for our selves and our kids (of all ages)
 - And may our **CHIEF goal** be to glorify God, and to enjoy Him for ever.