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The Pastor as a “Big Person” in the Life of a Child

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10 Acknowledge accomplishments with thanks and praise. Pay attention to the effort and attitude put forth in accomplishing tasks.

11 Show affection by use of age-appropriate physical contact. Jesus held little children. As a pastor it means a lot to a child for you to shake his or her hand.

12 Teach children to be polite and to use proper vocabulary regarding bodily functions.

13 Avert criticism of one child to another by countering with kind words. Children can be cruel to one another, especially siblings.

14 Teach children the importance of completing a job on time. Make time limits specific, and encourage parents to inspect what they expect.

15 Encourage parents to create a quiet home atmosphere by speaking directly to the child rather than shouting from a distance.

16 Encourage parents to prepare children for experiences rather than expect-

ing them to make quick adjustments. For example, “In fifteen minutes it will be bedtime.” “When we go to the store, we are only going to buy such and such.”



17 Encourage parents to use responsibilities as effective learning tools. According to their age, children can be assigned daily tasks. Living in a family requires certain responsibilities, such as straight-

ening a bedroom, doing dishes, and assisting in meal preparation and yard work.

18 Encourage parents to spend quality time alone with each child each day. “These thirty minutes are just for you and me. What would you like to talk about or do?”

19 Encourage parents to enjoy their children daily. Help parents to venture into their child's world even if it is to do something they are not particularly interested in.

20 Regarding discipline, as much as possible allow the child to anticipate consequences (both positive and negative) ahead of time. “If you do such and such, this will happen; but if you do so and so, this will happen.” God called this type of parenting the proclamation of the “blessings and curses.” The most effective type of parent is high in love and high in discipline.

Help your parents learn the three Fs of effective parenting: be FIRM, be FAIR, be FRIENDLY. The word “train” in Proverbs 22:6 means to tame something wild and to develop a

