

## Hidden Treasures

"Search for it as for hidden treasures"  
Proverbs 2:4



### **Helpful Resources For Parenting:**

Dobson, James, *The New Dare To Discipline*.

Family Life: [www.familylife.com](http://www.familylife.com). This is a wealth of very solid helpful information for all kinds of parenting subjects and resources.

Fitzpatrick, Elyse M., Jessica Thompson. *Give Them Grace*.

Tripp, Paul David. *Age Of Opportunity* (Excellent on parenting teens).

Tripp, Paul David. *Getting To The Heart Of Parenting* (DVD's).

### **A Brief Overview Of A Christian Approach To Spanking:**

1. View spanking as a tool to be used in your discipleship of your child and not an outlet for your frustration that he/she is irritating you. Spanking helps with discipleship by teaching them that sin leads to consequences, they must learn to obey, and ultimately by preparing them for the reality they need the gospel if they are to avoid God's judgment.
2. Do not spank in anger or because you are frustrated.
3. Use spanking for children roughly between toddler and early to middle elementary school years.
4. Spank when clear boundaries have been given, you have warned your child, and they defy you. A clear warning is important, but it should not be three warnings, five, etc. Children must learn to obey right away and to know that when mommy and daddy set

boundaries and announce consequences for behavior, they mean it.

5. Have a clear plan for how to spank ahead of time and be in agreement with your spouse how you will go about it.
6. Spank only those parts of the body (the bottom) that will sting and let the child know they have crossed a line and should not want to face this again, but will not injure them.
7. Use a short stroke in the spank. Do not take a long swing with your whole arm or your body weight behind it.
8. Let children know you love them and want to help them learn how to obey mommy, daddy, and God. Show love to them after spanking, such as a hug or having them sit on your lap. Also pray with them. Remember that one of the advantages of spanking for young children is it also allows the consequence for defiance to be quick, immediate, to carry the greatest future deterrence, and to avoid being long and drawn out—such as being put in a corner or room for a period of time.
9. Do not spank them in public which can both cause unnecessary embarrassment to them and can be detrimental to you since most of society does not believe in spanking and wrongly views it as abuse.
10. Do not be deterred by studies that suggest spanking is detrimental to children and causes them to be violent later on. The kind of spanking presented in this insert does not have these effects. A big problem with such studies is that they do not distinguish between the kind of spanking we have advocated and the kind that is done in anger and frustration, the kind that can lead to genuine abuse. It is like saying that all teenagers should avoid driving since many have a tendency to be daredevils and to be involved in wrecks.
11. For more direction see *Dare To Discipline* and also [www.familylife.com](http://www.familylife.com).