

Child Training — Having a Will

If we instruct our children not to ask, and then we don't have a will for them ourselves, we are left with a bunch of idle children, who do nothing. Our Heavenly Father has been long awaiting the time when He could have men that would cry out to do HIS WILL. HE HAS SOMETHING FOR US TO DO! He has a lot that needs to be done. He has a lot to teach us and train us in. This is of much comfort to us, His children, that we now know that there is a purpose for our lives. We are no longer slaves to trying to find something fun for ourselves to do, being bored with ALL of our vain activities.

We want our children to feel needed, to feel as if the parent has them in mind. This is a great responsibility to the parent. We should never ask our children not to ask if we don't have a will for them ourselves. We must spend much time making a will for them. They must not feel that they are a bother to us.

Of course, that does not mean that we have to make elaborate plans of things to “keep the kids busy,” trying to figure lots of *fun things* for them to do. Everything they do must be somehow profitable for them. They must learn to *wait* for that will to be revealed to them. They must learn to be content. There is much in the scriptures about the blessing that is upon the man who WAITS UPON THE LORD. But the only reason that we can be content in waiting is that we know that our heavenly Father does have us in mind, and He does want to use us to do His will. We know that His will soon will be revealed to us, and *then* we can take action and DO what is required of us.

How worthless we would feel if the Father never had anything for us to do. But on the contrary, He has given us a very busy life. The harvest is great and the laborers are few. We do need our children. There is much they can do. There is much they need to be trained in. There is much profit for them to be contentedly by our side waiting for our slightest command.

If because they “cannot ask,” they are left idle and must resort to whining to get our attention, that we might notice that they exist and have been sitting there quietly for hours and have never been served or never been asked to do anything, then they should be allowed to ask.

When a child becomes older, and learns to walk in obedience to his father's will, then he is at the point to be able to ask his father, just as we ask our Father. By that time the child will not be striving any longer just to do and eat what HE WANTS, but will be trained in his father's will for him, and he will know how to function within that will. Then the father will be more than willing to “give him *good things* when he asks.” For he only asks for “good things.” He has been trained to know the difference between good and evil (Heb 5:14), between what is pleasing and what is not.

We are living in a generation where children have lost all respect. These are those who are being raised up to be the men spoken of in 2 Tim 3:1-5. But our children are not like those who dwell all around them in the world. They have been saved out of that wicked environment. They are not to behave as other children. They go by an entirely different standard. Yet the wicked influence of the world is all around. It creeps in among us subtly through guests, relatives, new children who come to live with us, and our children are very susceptible to this influence. Only through much diligence will they be kept from its corruption. Since most of us have also come out of this wicked generation we may be blind to much of its subtle persuasion. The Holy Spirit must reveal to us daily how we can truly raise our children to be that holy nation He desires.

We have instructed our children not to “ask,” either for food or to do things that they want to do. This is to teach the children respect, and also that they might learn more about the character of the heavenly Father. Our fatherhood is a type given to man in order that he might better understand what YHWH is like.

But what about Mt 7:9-11 when Yahshua taught us that we must “ask”? What is He really trying to tell us here? Should this be understood as all the evangelicals understand it — that if you *WANT* something, just ask God and He will give it to you because He loves you and wants you to have anything you want? Is there something perverted about this understanding? Does Yahshua want us asking the Father for this and that, to go here and there? Is this how we pray — “Oh please give me this thing, and please let me go there”? NO! But rather we always ask according to His will. We only want to do what *He* wants us to

do!

A child must have the desire to do his parent's will. He should only ask about this or that thing in relation to the will of the parent. Of course, a small child knows nothing of the will of the parent. He must first be trained to know what his parent wants of him, what pleases the parent. Because he is a fallen child he will *naturally* want to do his own will. He will want to eat what HE wants to eat, when HE wants to eat it. He will want to go where HE wants to go, when HE wants to go there. Therefore, he must be trained to wait upon the parent and learn what the parent's will is for him. Children nowadays barrage the parent with nagging questions in order to get the parent to let them do what THEY want to do. The parent is left to merely arrange their own schedule around that of their children's busy lives. The parent does not have a will for their child, for the world says, "let a child do what he wants to do, just so long as he stays out of trouble." This is not right! A parent must have a will for his child to do, just as our Heavenly Father has a will for us to do!