

# Grandparenting

## Humility, Repentance & Prayer

Hand Out #2, Jan. 28, 2018

### How To Disciple (continued)

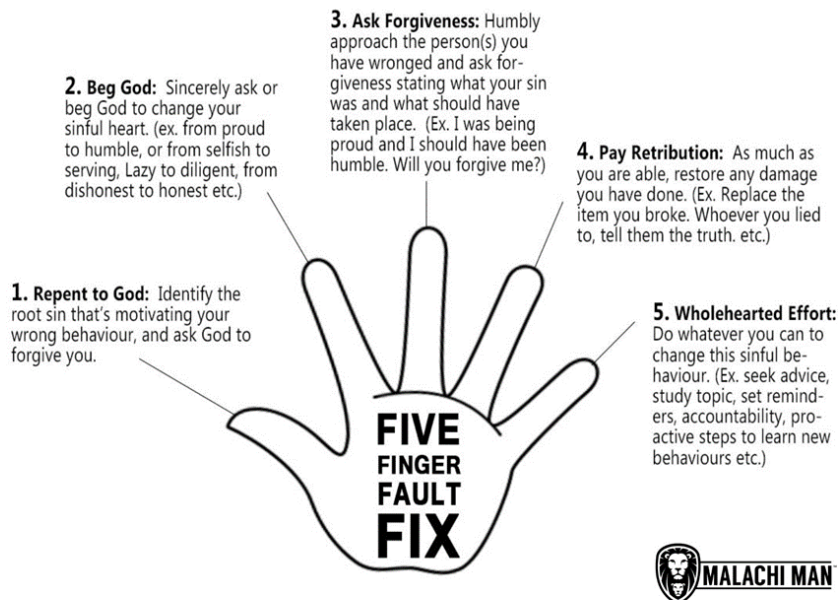
#### 4. Humility

Pride is the #1 killer of saving faith. Indicators of \_\_\_\_\_ include: an unwillingness to examine our lives for sin/error; unwilling to \_\_\_\_\_ or ask forgiveness for how we have contributed to a problem; blaming others for things we were responsible for; an unwillingness to get help learning a better approach; etc. Proud people should not expect to have fruitful lives because God opposes them (James 4:6).

Humility is God's \_\_\_\_\_ gate (Matt. 5:5, Phi.1 2:5-7). Humble people: accept responsibility; look for their sins/errors and are quick to confess them; risk for the sake of others; are open and transparent; ask for help; are more concerned for the spiritual well being of others than their own reputation; initiate reconciliation; etc.. Humble people are well positioned to be used by God for \_\_\_\_\_ things.

#### 5. Repentance

Teach the following "FIVE" (or your own version) to your kids, grandkids. Then model this pattern for them by authentically doing it yourself. More is \_\_\_\_\_ than is taught. Don't expect them to need Jesus if you don't seem to. Kids need more than words, they need a \_\_\_\_\_ example to follow.



Broken relationships require humility and repentance to be restored. Take humble, diligent \_\_\_\_\_ here; don't allow pride to jeopardize the souls of your progeny. Be quick to ask God, your spouse, kids, others, questions like, "What have I neglected? Where have I been passive? Have I been domineering? Have I wronged you in any way?" The more distant you are, the longer it may take for the answers to come. Do the FIVE for \_\_\_\_\_ that is legitimately your error; regardless how small it may seem to you. Patiently persevere in this pattern and you'll be amazed at how the gospel brings new life into damaged relationships.

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*"...turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers..." Malachi 4:6*

Generally, discipleship/relational barriers with your kids will translate into barriers with your grandkids. You simply can't bypass 1<sup>st</sup> base to get to 2<sup>nd</sup>. Take greater initiative (relational, humble, repentant, transparent, honest, availability, prayer etc.) with your kids than grandkids. At the same time, work with whoever is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 6. Prayer

Prayer is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_. Nobody comes to Christ but by the Holy Spirit (John 6:65). Regular, persistent, fervent prayer is the most powerful weapon we can wage against the enemy. We want to continually grow in Biblical prayer (Ex. Psalm 86, Daniel 6, Luke 18:1-8 etc.). Also, there are many great books on prayer.

**Caution.** If we ignore parts of God's Word or willfully remain in sin, then all our religious activities may be worthless. It may be that God is not even listening to any of our prayers. (Prov. 28:9, Is. 1:13-20, Jer. 14:11-12, Jer. 36:5-8, Amos 5:21-24)

If we think, "All I can do is pray," think instead, "Have I really done all I'm called to?" Never use the "All we can do is pray" as an \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid a difficult path such as: asking some hard questions about our past approach, inviting critique of our current approach, repenting, humbly seeking forgiveness, learning a new approach, getting help, etc. God knows the \_\_\_\_\_ of our hearts. Let's encourage each other toward wholehearted, sacrificial obedience to God's Word.

#### **Optional Homework:**

Read descriptions of the gospel message and repentance (ex. Luke 18:9-14). Spend time thanking God for the liberating beauty of the gospel, by which we are saved!

Review notes on principle #5 Repentance. Do the "FIVE" wherever appropriate.

Come join us in prayer most Wednesday nights 7:30-8:30 at the Snyders. Sign up for email notifications.

If you have comments or questions, or if you would like to discuss a particular situation, I would be happy to offer a perspective and/or brainstorm ideas for your consideration. Email: [richard@malachiman.com](mailto:richard@malachiman.com)

Enjoy the great privilege of being used by God to impact eternity!

#### **Recommended resource:**

Praying God's Word; (2009) Beth Moore  
Intercessory Prayer; (1996) Dutch Sheets