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SHIFT: ReThinking Your Parenting

Rethinking Performance-Based vs. Purpose-Filled

Psalm 78:1–7 (HCSB)

My people, hear my instruction; listen to what I say. ² I will declare wise sayings; I will speak mysteries from the past – ³ things we have heard and known and that our fathers have passed down to us. ⁴ We must not hide them from their children, but must tell a future generation the praises of the LORD, His might, and the wonderful works He has performed. ⁵ He established a testimony in Jacob and set up a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to teach to their children ⁶ so that a future generation - children yet to be born - might know. They were to rise and tell their children ⁷ so that they might put their confidence in God and not forget God's works, but keep His commands.

1. PERFORMANCE-BASED TRAINING PUTS THE FOCUS ON THE _____ ABILITIES AND POWER

- It is important and _____ to teach your children certain life skills.
- The trap of performance-based training is unhelpful comparison with others.
- Performance-based training is a good _____ point, but there is a higher goal.

“Teaching kids to count is fine but teaching them what counts is best.” ~ Bob Talbert

2. PURPOSE-FILLED TRAINING PUTS THE FOCUS ON _____ POWER

- When children learn they are here for a _____, it changes their focus.
- It up to the parents to teach their children that God has the power to accomplish His plan through them.

- Your children can _____ from “I have to do all things,” to “I can do all things through Christ.”

Philippians 4:13 (HCSB)

I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me.

- Understanding our purpose clears the way in understanding our identity in Christ.

3. INSTILLING PURPOSE SETS THE STAGE FOR _____ GENERATIONS

- Training the next generation is about _____ the truths that we have learned from our parents.
- Parents can establish their child's identity in Christ early on.

1 Peter 1:1–4 (HCSB)

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ: To the temporary residents dispersed in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, chosen ² according to the foreknowledge of God the Father and set apart by the Spirit for obedience and for sprinkling with the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be multiplied to you. ³ Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. According to His great mercy, He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

- What do we _____ in the next generation?
 - Put their confidence in God.
 - Never forget the works of God.
 - Keep God's commands.

The Next Step:

Determine to teach the things that will position your children for the future.