

12 Childhood— Goals and Methods

12 童年：目标与方法

THE BIG IDEA核心理念

Parents of school age children are confronted with new challenges. The children are spending more time away from the direct supervision of mother or father. Since you cannot be with him all the time, you must build on those early lessons of being under a person of authority. The big lesson for these middle years is character development. He must know what to do in hundreds of situations that you cannot anticipate. He needs biblical wisdom. His conscience must be developed as the reasoning factor of the soul so that he will know what he ought to do even when you are not there. We must appeal to the child's conscience, helping him to develop the capacity to reason to right conclusions using the Scriptures as his guide.

学龄儿童的父母面临着新的挑战。孩子们越来越多的时间是不在父母的直接监督下而度过的。既然你不能一直陪在他身边，你必须在早期关于顺服权威的教育基础上继续建立。对于孩子的中期成长阶段，最重要的一课是品格培养。他必须知道在你无法预料的数百种情况下该怎么做。他需要圣经的智慧。他的良心必须被发展成灵魂中理性的一部分，这样即使你不在身边，他也会知道应该做什么。我们必须诉诸孩子的良心，帮助他发展以圣经为指导推理出正确结论的能力。

It is obvious that character development is not taught through the same methods as teaching a toddler to be under authority. Spanking works well to teach young children to obey, but is not effective at teaching a ten year old to be wise. We must address the heart using all the means of communication discussed in chapters 8–10 of *Shepherding a Child's Heart*.

显而易见，品格培养的方法与教导幼儿顺服权威的方式不同。打屁股能很好地教会小孩子服从，但并不能有效地教会一个十岁的孩子变得有智慧。我们必须运用《牧养儿女的心》第八至十章中讨论的各种沟通方式来触及孩子的心。

This chapter discusses the information found in Chapters 16 & 17 of *Shepherding a Child's Heart*.

本章讨论了《牧养儿女的心》第十六和十七章中的信息。

DIGGING INTO THE WORD查考圣经

What do we mean by character development? What passages of Scripture describe these character development goals? Generate a list of character development goals from the following passages.

我们所说的品格培养是什么意思？哪些经文描述了这些品格培养的目标？请从以下经文中列出品格培养的目标。

Exodus 20:1–17《出埃及记》20:1–17
Leviticus 19:11–18《利未记》19:11–18
Matthew 5:3–10《马太福音》5:3–10
Romans 5:3–4《罗马书》5:3–4
Romans 12:3–21《罗马书》12:3–21
1 Corinthians 13:4–8《哥林多前书》13:4–8
Galatians 5:22–23《加拉太书》5:22–23
Ephesians 4:32《以弗所书》4:32
Colossians 3:12–14《歌罗西书》3:12–14
Philippians 2:3–4《腓立比书》2:3–4
2 Peter 1:5–7《彼得后书》1:5–7
James 3:17–19《雅各书》3:17–19

1. List character development goals from the passages above:

从以上经文中列出品格培养的目标：

You have probably noted that the character goals generated from these passages are rooted in true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Where does this leave us, if our children do not believe? Think of it this way. Calling your children to be what they cannot be fully and honestly without the work of God is a means of showing them how much they need the work of Christ to change, transform and empower them. The law of God is the schoolmaster that leads to salvation (Galatians 3:23–25). Showing them what they ought to be will make their inability to be what they ought to be obvious—providing you with the opportunity to show both their need of Christ and the transforming power of grace.

你可能已经注意到，这些经文中的品格目标都植根于对主耶稣基督的真实信仰。那么，如果我们的孩子不信主，这对我们意味着什么呢？可以这样理解。呼召你的孩子去做他们在没有神的工作时无法完全且诚实做到的事情，正是向他们展示他们多么需要基督的工作来改变、转化和赋予他们能力的一种方式。神的律法是引导人得救的师傅（《加拉太书》3:23–25）。向他们展示他们应该成为的样子，会使他们无法成为那样的人的事实显而易见——这也给你提供了机会，展示他们对基督的需要以及恩典改变的力量。

2. The conscience is our ally in working with our children. Make notes about the conscience from the following passages of Scripture.

良心是我们在教育孩子时的盟友。请根据以下经文写下有关良心的笔记：

1 Samuel 24:1–7《撒母耳记上》24:1–7
Romans 2:15《罗马书》2:15
Romans 13:1–5《罗马书》13:1–5
2 Corinthians 4:2《哥林多前书》4:2
1 Peter 3:16《彼得前书》3:16
1 Timothy 4:2《提摩太前书》4:2
Titus 1:15《提多书》1:15

3. As we seek to develop godly character in our children and appeal to their conscience in our instruction, we must communicate wisely and well. Note principles of godly communication from the following passages:

当我们寻求在孩子身上培养敬虔的品格，并在教导中向他们的良心呼吁时，我们必须智慧地、恰当地沟通。请根据以下经文记下敬虔沟通的原则：

Proverbs 10:11《箴言》10:11

Proverbs 10:19–21《箴言》10:19–21

Proverbs 10:32《箴言》10:32

Proverbs 12:14《箴言》12:14

Proverbs 12:18《箴言》12:18

Proverbs 13:3《箴言》13:3

Proverbs 15:1–2《箴言》15:1–2

Proverbs 15:28《箴言》15:28

Proverbs 25:11《箴言》25:11

Proverbs 29:20《箴言》29:20

APPLICATION应用

1. Use the character development goals from the section above to generate some character development goals for your children. List areas in which you wish to see them develop. Think of the passages of Scripture to which you might turn. Think through ways to illustrate the need for character growth in specific areas. Follow the paradigm shown below.

使用上一节中的品格发展目标，针对你的孩子制定一些品格发展目标。列出你希望看到他们成长的领域。思考你可以参考的经文。思考一些能够说明在特定领域中需要品格成长的方式。按照下面显示的范例。

Growth area:成长领域：

Passage(s) of Scripture:经文：

Illustrations of need for this growth:需要这种成长的说明：

How to open up the conversation:如何展开对话：

2. Chapter 16 of *Shepherding a Child's Heart* provides a three-pronged tool of diagnosis to help you understand your kids and their needs. Sit down with your spouse and think about your children in terms of the following categories:

《牧养儿女的心》第十六章提供了一个三管齐下的诊断工具以帮助你理解孩子及其需求。与配偶坐下来，从以下几个类别来考量你们的孩子：

a. Relationship with God与神的关系

- Is there a conscious need for God?
是否有意识地感到需要神？
- Is knowing and loving God important?
认识神和爱神是否重要？
- Is God a source of strength and comfort?
神是否是力量和安慰的来源？
- What choices reflect knowing God?
哪些选择反映出对神的认识？
- Are God's ways and truth important?
神的道路和真理是否重要？
- Do spiritual realities seem to matter?
属灵的现实是否重要？
- Is there an independent relationship with God?
是否与神有独立的关系？

- Does he talk about God?
他是否谈论神？
- How does she talk about God?
她如何谈论神？
- Is God grand or small?
神是伟大的还是渺小的？
- Is God a friend or judge; helper or taskmaster?
神是朋友还是审判者；帮助者还是任务的执行者？
- Does she live as someone who is complete in Christ?
她是否过着一个在基督里完全的生活？

b. Relationship to himself与他自己的关系

- How does he think of himself?
他如何看待自己？
- Does he understand himself?
他是否了解自己？
- Is he aware of personal strengths and weaknesses?
他是否意识到个人的优点和缺点？
- Does he understand his personality?
他是否了解自己的性格？
- Is he confident or shy and diffident?
他是自信，害羞还是缺乏自信？
- Is he arrogant or humble?
他是傲慢还是谦卑？
- Is he chained by fears?
他是否被恐惧束缚？
- Is he able to enjoy others?
他能否享受与他人的相处？
- Does he feel superior or inferior to others?
他是否觉得自己优于或低于他人？
- Is he able to work on his own?
他是否能够独立工作？
- Does he need external props to stay on task?
他是否需要外部支撑才能保持专注？
- How much does he need the approbation of others?
他在多大程度上需要他人的认可？

c. Relationship with others与他人的关系

- How does he interact with others?
他如何与他人互动？
- Can he converse without making the conversation about himself?
他是否能够进行对话而不让谈话变成关于自己的话题？
- What does he bring out in others?
他能让别人展现出什么？
- Does he control others?
他是否控制别人？

- Is he under other's control?
他是否被别人控制？
- Does he fawn for attention?
他是否讨好别人以获取关注？
- Is he pleasant with kids his age?
他是否与同龄孩子相处融洽？
- How does he deal with disappointment with people?
他如何处理对他人的失望？
- Is he forgiving?
他是否宽恕别人？
- Does he harbor bitterness toward others?
他是否对别人怀有怨恨？
- How does he respond to being sinned against?
他如何回应别人的冒犯？
- What are his relationship strengths?
他在人际关系中的优势是什么？
- What are his relationship weaknesses?
他在人际关系中的弱点是什么？

STRATEGIC QUESTIONS策略性问题

The child rearing emphasis in this section is nurture rather than merely controlling and constraining behavior. We are good activities directors, sports organizers and social planners. Parents in our culture are not good at nurturing relationships. The things outlined above and in chapters 16 and 17 of *Shepherding a Child's Heart* are skills that must be developed.

本章节的重点在于培养孩子，而不仅仅是控制和约束行为。我们是优秀的活动指导者、体育组织者和社交计划制定者。但我们文化中的父母并不擅长培养关系。上文以及在《牧养儿女的心》十六章和十七章中提到的内容都是必须发展的技能。

1. What are the ways you must change in order to do the things described in this section?

Addressing the heart necessitates thinking clearly and thoroughly about the “what”, “when”, and “why” of behavior. Sometimes the fact that we do not think clearly about these things is reflected in asking poor questions of our children. For example, “why did you . . .” is usually a poor question. Here are some better questions for helping your children express a clearer understanding of their actions and responses.

为了做出本章节描述的事情，你必须在哪些方面进行改变？触及孩子的内心需要我们清晰、彻底地思考行为中的「什么」、「何时」和「为什么」。有时，我们未能清晰思考这些问题，这反映在向孩子提出糟糕的问题上。比如，「你为什么……」通常是个不好的问题。以下是一些更好的问题，能够帮助你的孩子更清楚地表达他们的行为和回应：

- Tell me about the situation. . .
跟我说说发生的情况……
- How did you respond internally when . . .
当……时，你内心是如何反应的？
- What did you do (or say)?
你做了(或说了)什么？

- What were you trying to accomplish in doing (saying) that?
你做(说)那件事是想达到什么目的?
 - Did you accomplish what you wished?
你达到了你想要的结果吗?
 - How did it help or hurt?
它是帮助了你还是伤害了你?
 - What would have been a better thing to do (say)?
做(说)什么会是更好的选择?
 - Where was God in your thinking at the time?
当时神在你心中的位置是什么?
 - What could you have done to reflect the two great commands? (Matthew 22:37-40)
你本可以做什么来反映出那两条最大的诫命?(《马太福音》22:37-40)
2. What questions could you add to this list?
你可以为这个问题列表再添加哪些问题?
 3. How would these questions be more beneficial to your child than your usual procedure in a similar situation? Many times parents have desires that get in the way of nurturing their children. These desires are often plausible, but they become idols of the heart that distort your vision as you shepherd your children. Among those desires you might find:
在类似情况下, 这些问题如何比你通常的做法更有利于你的孩子? 许多时候, 父母的欲望妨碍了他们对孩子的培养。这些欲望通常看起来合情合理, 但它们会成为心中的偶像, 扭曲你在牧养孩子时的视野。以下是一些你可能有的欲望:
 - You want to be respected
你希望得到尊重
 - You want comfort
你希望舒适
 - You want appreciation
你希望得到欣赏
 - You want success
你希望成功
 - You want control
你希望掌控
 - You want ease
你希望轻松
 - You want peace
你希望和平
 4. You want . . . what can you add to the list?
你希望.....你还能在这个列表上添加什么?
 5. Think through some of the ways these things get in the ways of your shepherding of your kids.
想一想这些欲望如何阻碍你牧养孩子的方式。
 6. What are the commitments to change that you must make if you are going to be a nurturer of children rather than activities director, sports organizer and social planner?

如果你希望成为一个培养孩子的父母，而不是活动指导者、体育组织者和社交计划制定者，你必须做出哪些承诺来进行改变？

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS结语

God, the nurturing heavenly Father, places his children in situations in which their character is developed and they grow into maturity in Him. One of the contexts for nurture that he gives you is the experience of rearing children. All that he is to us as a Father becomes the source of strength, confidence and empowerment for us in this task that would otherwise be overwhelming.

神，这位慈爱的天父，将祂的儿女安置在这样的环境中，让他们的品格得到发展，并在祂里面长大成熟。祂赐予你的养育环境之一就是养育孩子的经历。在这项可能让人不堪重负的任务中，正是祂作为我们天父，成为了我们力量、信心和能力的源泉。

Many passages remind us of our riches in Christ and the joy and confidence that is ours as we know this growth in our great God.

许多经文提醒我们，在基督里我们有丰富，在我们伟大的神里面成长，有喜乐和信心归给我们。

Look at Isaiah 12 and note the things about God and his redemption that fill you with confidence and joy in this task.

看看《以赛亚书》第十二章，注意那些关于神和祂救赎的事，这让你在这项任务中充满信心和喜乐。