

WHAT I TEACH MY CHILDREN 4: TO LOVE JUSTICE

Why is it important to teach our children that God is just, or that He will make them accountable for every action they make?

More and more people today say that punishing our children when they do wrong is no longer necessary because kids are so much smarter these days. All we have to do is reason with them. A few years back, a friend shared with me a similar business idea that teaches how we can manage our people better. The idea is this: If you continue to look for the good in what people do and reward them, you will encourage them to always do what is good. And, if you continue to ignore the wrong things they do, they will soon stop doing these because they do not get rewarded. The people who developed this principle do not realize that by ignoring the bad things people do, they have actually rewarded and encouraged them to do them again and again. This is why Ecclesiastes 8:11 (ESV) says, "Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil."

Siguro, kaya maraming batang pilisopo ngayon is because they were trained to reason out when they do something wrong. So they grow up being good at doing so.

Have you ever worked with people like them, 'yung walang disiplina, who do not submit to your authority, and who reason out whenever they are corrected? How did you treat them? Di ba you wanted to ignore them as a person? And even if you want to be nice, you cannot do so because of their arrogance. You would also discipline them by using the policies of the company as a guide. When I checked deeper into these kinds of people, I realized that the reason they are undisciplined is because they were not taught the idea of justice at home. Their parents only reasoned with them and did not impose punishments when necessary.

Kami ni Peachy, we decided to discipline our children when they were young because we did not want the world to discipline them when they are older. Peachy would always say, "Ako na lang ang papalo sa inyo, kasi ayaw kong iba pang tao ang gumawa niyan sa inyo." We always tell them that God is just! He will bless them when they are obedient and respectful, but He will let the people in this world punish them when they do wrong.

Do you love your children? Protect them from the cruelty of the world by teaching them to be righteous before the Lord. Teach them that obedience is not an option but a necessity. And then remember what God said in Deuteronomy 16:20 (NASB1995),

"Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you."