

Raising Self-Governed Children in a Self-Centered World

Quick Highlights & Takeaways

Self-Government Defined

- Learning to rule:
 - emotions
 - attitudes
 - speech
 - choices
 - appetites
- Governed by conviction, not impulse.

“A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.” —
Proverbs 25:28

The Four Spheres of Government

1. Self-Government
2. Family Government
3. Church Government
4. Civil Government

Key Principle:

When self-government weakens, external control increases.

True Liberty

Liberty is NOT:

- doing whatever we want
- following every feeling

Liberty IS:

Having enough inward mastery to choose what is right even when it is hard.

5 Practical Ways to Build Self-Government

1. Train Conscience, Not Just Compliance

Ask:

- What happened in your heart?
- Was that truthful?
- What would have been the right response?

Goal:

Build inward conviction.

2. Let Consequences Become Teachers

Children learn responsibility when choices carry weight.

Do not rescue every discomfort.

3. Give Real Household Responsibility

Children grow differently when they contribute.

Give:

- meaningful chores
- responsibility
- opportunities to serve

4. Train Emotional Restraint

Feelings are real.

But feelings are not government.

Teach children:

- to wait
- to hear “no”
- to recover from disappointment
- to do hard things

5. Give Vision Bigger Than Self

Children need purpose.

Say things like:

- “We are trustworthy.”
- “We are people who finish what we start.”
- “We are people God can use.”
- “We serve others”

Parent Reminder

Children watch government before they learn government.

Model:

- consistency
- humility
- self-control
- repentance
- steadiness

Final Encouragement

Do not underestimate the quiet work of faithful parenting.

You are:

- building conscience,
- building responsibility,
- building inward government,
- and shaping souls.

The future of liberty may very well be sitting at your kitchen table this afternoon.

Contact



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