

To show how to parent God's way, as set forth in the Bible, I use the acronym G-U-I-D-E-S:

Give, so that a child's basic needs can be met (Matthew 7:9–11; 2 Corinthians 12:14).

Understand, so that a child is not provoked or exasperated (Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21).

Instruct, so that your child can know and apply God's wisdom (Proverbs 4:1; Ephesians 6:4b; 2 Timothy 3:15).

Discipline, so that your child can correct poor choices (1 Kings 1:5–6a; Ephesians 6:4b; Hebrews 12:9).

Encourage, so that your child can develop God-given gifts (1 Thessalonians 2:11).

Supplicate in prayer, so that your child can experience God's touch and truth (2 Samuel 12:16; 1 Chronicles 29:19; Matthew 19:13, 19).