

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

*TRAIN UP A CHILD*  
Raising Champions for Christ — Week 6

**ICEBREAKER:** What's something you consider too daring to try?

**OVERVIEW:** The famous preacher Charles Spurgeon said, "He who thinks it easy to bring up a family never had one of his own. A mother who trains her children aright had need be wiser than Solomon, for his son turned out a fool." Bringing up children to worship, walk with, and work for Christ is not easy. This week we are receiving instruction and encouragement from God's word as we dive deeply into the most popular parenting verse in the Bible.

1. Read Proverbs 22:6. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Why do children need training?
3. Whose responsibility is it to train up a child? Explain.
4. The goal of training is preparation. What should Christian parents be preparing their kids for?
5. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What is the training manual that God has given parents to prepare their children? How does God's training manual help us to prepare our children?

6. Training involves setting boundaries for your children — limiting their options until they are mature enough to make good choices on their own. Do you have enough boundaries in place for your children? Explain.
7. Read Hebrews 12:11. For training to be effective, it should be hard. Easy training makes for weak trainees. What are some ways that many parents in our culture are too easy on their kids? How have you been too easy on your kids?
8. Proverbs 22:6 says that we must train our children in the way they should go — to be fully-devoted to Jesus Christ. What is the best way to do this?
9. Why should Proverbs 22:6 not be interpreted as a promise? If Proverbs 22:6 is not a promise, then how should it be interpreted?
10. How can parents find hope in Proverbs 22:6?

**The Last Word:** "We need to worry less about today's happiness and more about tomorrow's readiness." Tim Elmore