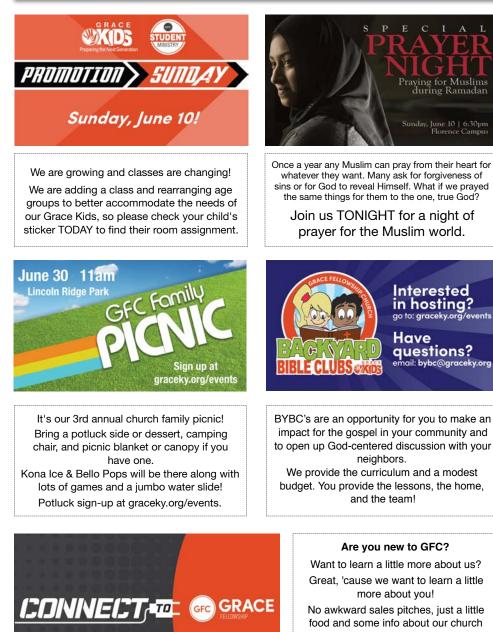
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June 24 body. Chat with some leaders and meet other people just like you. 11:00 gm Join us June 24, 11 am, at Entrance B!

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Parenting Wisdom: It's Proverbs 22:6...not Promise 22:6 Pastor Peter LaRuffa June 10, 2018

I. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us that parenting is about training.

Prov. 22:6a Train up a child in the way he should go...

- A. The Hebrew word translated "train" literally means to "dedicate." As parents, we want to channel their thinking and conduct in the way of wisdom.
- B. The Hebrew phrase translated "in the way he should go..." is literally "according to his way."
 - i) There is no "cookie-cutter" parenting method.
 - ii) The term "way" in Proverbs usually refers to the path someone chooses to take through life.

Eph. 6:4 ...bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord

2 Tim. 3:15 ...and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writing, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

II. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us to parent with "the long view" in mind.

Prov. 22:6b ...even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Remember—as parents, our hope & prayer is that our children will choose wisdom when we're not looking, when we're not there to help, and the choice is theirs alone to make (Prov. 1:2-9).

III. Parenting Proverbs interpreted as Parenting Promises creates Parenting Problems.

A. Proverbs connect to an action or attribute of God are always true...because He does not change (Mal. 3:6).

Prov. 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord.

Prov. 15:3 - The eyes of the Lord are in every place.

Prov. 16:33 - The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.

Prov. 22:2 - The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all.

B. Proverbs connected to a circumstance of life or people are generally true, but shouldn't be confused as promises.

Prov. 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance...

Prov. 21:7 - The violence of the wicked will sweep them away...

Prov. 21:21 - Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness and honor.

Prov. 21:25 - The desire of the sluggard kills him, for his hands refuse to labor.

If you read Proverbs 22:6 as Promise 22:6, you'll become a "Vending Machine Parent." This is the false notion that if you push the right buttons, you'll get the product you desire.

2 Dangerous Results of being a "Vending Machine Parent"

1. "Vending Machine Parents" suffer from **foolish pride**--taking credit for that which is God's alone.

James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above...

Isa. 43:11 - I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior

John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Titus 3:5 - He saved us, not because of the works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy...

1. "Vending Machine Parents" suffer from **unnecessary guilt and shame**--bearing the guilt & weight of sin that isn't theirs.

Rom. 5:12 - Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned--

Ezek. 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. **The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son.** The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

IV. Parents & children alike can cling to the promise of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Rom. 10:13 - For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Heb. 4:14-16 - Since then we have a great high priest who passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, Let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.