

Loving God for Life: The Five Principles to Cultivate the Children's Faith

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Keywords: Christian education Biblical principles, the Great Commandment, industrial revolution 4.0, Jewish education.	The greatest commandment and God's will for all Christians is to love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. Especially amid the industrial revolution 4.0 where younger generations prefer to enjoy life and pursue personal satisfaction. To cultivate the children's willingness to love God throughout their lives, Christian parents need to be guided by the Biblical principles. This study used a qualitative descriptive analysis research method based on a literature study that examined the process of developing faith in the lives of Bible heroes: Samuel, Moses, and Josiah who loved God all their lives, which is applied in Jewish education. The five models of children education, namely: (1) A Loving and Authentic Relationship Between Parents and Children from an Early Age; (2) The Father's Role in Applying Spiritual Discipline; (3) Cultivates the Faith to Understand God's Providence; (4) Cultivates the Children's Faith in an Innovative, Holistic and Integrative Way; and (5) Cultivates the Children's Faith Starting During Pregnancy. This method has been implemented in several Christian families for their children since they were toddlers. At age 18, parents reported on the character development of their children raised with a love-for-God education. This study demonstrates that applying biblical principles to the lives of the three Bible Heroes can help Christian parents raise their children to love God and develop good character.

INTRODUCTION

The world has entered the Industrial Revolution 4.0 era which is marked by the inflation in connectivity, interaction, and development in digital, artificial intelligence, and virtual systems (Lase, 2016). This means that there are fewer boundaries between humans, machines, and other resources, especially in information and communication technology that affect various sectors of human life. A crucial threat in entering this era is the development of information technology that affects all people, including children (Diana, 2019). In other words, people rely on cyberspace interaction as a way to communicate with people instead of talking to people directly. The lack of interaction between people becomes one of the impacts of technological disruption that causes human behavior to become increasingly individualistic (Handitya 2018). This era can harm Christian younger generations who are prone to love the world and everything in it. This warning is found in 1 John 2:15, "Do not love the world and what is in it. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him." (KJV). Therefore, it is important to educate children to love God from an early age, so that they can grow up to love God even while facing this era and its challenges (Goodall and Goodall 2010).

Looking at this phenomenon, the author perceives that an education-based method that is based on Christian faith is very much needed to decrease the negative impacts of this era in shaping children's characters. Christian families need to seriously apply an education method that teaches and guides children to love God throughout their lives. The author was interested to know what principles of children's education is used in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament that enable children to grow up loving God. The authors aimed to find out how the Biblical principles of educating children can be applied to face the challenges that threaten children's faith in Christian families. Harris (2003) noted that the Jewish families seriously taught their children from an early age to keep God's greatest commandment which is written in Deuteronomy 6:4-9, "Loving God with all of your heart, soul, mind..." And was also repeated by Christ Himself in the New Testament (Mark 12:29-30) In this study, the author chooses to examine the

way Jewish families in the Old Testament educate their children because the author sees that God communicates the provisions of children's education as His will throughout the Old Testament books up to the time when Christ was revealed in the New Testament.

METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study is to show that the educational principles that are applied by Jewish families in the Old Testament can be relevantly applied by Christian families to educate their children to face the era of industrial revolution 4.0. To achieve this purpose, the authors conducted a literature study on how Israeli families applied the principles of education to their children anchored in Proverbs 22:6, just as the parents of several Old Testament leaders, namely Samuel, Moses, and Josiah, raised their children to become servants of God. The authors did a thorough literature study using a qualitative descriptive analysis approach and field research to determine the relevance of the principles of Jewish family education.

THE OUTCOMES OF THIS RESEARCH

Biblical Teaching in Dedicating a Life to Love God

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 declares, “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.” The word ‘hear’ in Deuteronomy 6: 4, comes from the Hebrew word ‘shema’ which means ‘to hear, pay attention, and do’. (Harris et al. 2003). God commands His people to love Him and dedicate their lives to Him as the one and only God. God wants His people to fully obey and listen to His Word, which is to love God with all their hearts, soul, and mind. This commandment becomes the educational foundation to cultivate children’s faith in God. God revealed His will for each parent to dedicate their life toward loving God, and therefore parents are responsible to teach their children to love God. Parents who have experienced God’s love should raise their children to love God with the right mind and attitude to set examples in obeying and committing their lives to love God. When children see their parents as role models, they will be motivated to love God throughout their lives (Alexander et al. 1985).

God wants to have a living and loving relationship with the people He created. The goal of every parents to raise their children to love God, as a privilege that God has given so that every creation can enjoy a loving relationship with the Almighty God. The all-loving God has granted the opportunity for His people to experience and enjoy His love as a blessing. (Moreland 2005).

In a Jewish family, parents have the role of becoming teachers to their children. Rastygrina (2016) mentions that Jewish parents’ love for their children has no boundaries. Jewish tradition is rooted in joyful parenting, starting from being fruitful and being able to multiply to executing the first obligation or *mitzvah* that is mentioned in the Torah. The children involve God in everything that they do, starting from when they wake up in the morning until they go to sleep at night so that there is no activity that is not lived out from loving God (Jacob, 2018).

Israeli Families’ Principles in Educating Their Children

Cains (1992) explains that God’s commandment written in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 has been the main doctrine that guides Israeli families. Israeli parents have encouraged their children to believe in the Almighty God and love Him deeply every day as the one and only God in their lives (Hanke 1989). According to *Mishnah*, which is a complete guidebook that is owned by Jewish Rabbis, children at the age of five years old would begin to read TaNaKh (Lewis, 1999). By the age of six years old, the children already understand Jewish laws and rituals before entering public school with their parent’s assistance. At the Hebrew school, which is known as the Torah Talmud, Israeli children are well prepared, so that they could celebrate the BarMitzvah, or Son of the Torah when they turn thirteen the moment Jewish children can legally be called the Sons of the Torah when they reach thirteen years old. (Telushkin 1991).

The children’s lives and upbringing are the most important and sacred priority of Israeli families. Both fathers and mothers responsibly exercise their roles as parents to teach their children while constantly setting good example. (Edersheim, 1994). The parents’ commitment encourages the children to decide in their hearts to believe in the One and Only God as well as love Him. This decision leads the children to make God the only center of their life, which become a solid spiritual foundation for the concept of the true God (Wolpe 2009).

Discussion

Jewish Education in Old Testament Era

Jewish education places a high value on children because they are considered the most precious gift from God (Psalms 127:3; 128:3, 4). It is crucial for families to remember that they have an important part in the Israeli education system because it is their responsibility to teach their children. Deuteronomy 6:7 provides an interesting insight into how parents should teach their children about God. This verse emphasizes that parents should use ordinary, life activities to teach their children about God because loving Him is best expressed naturally through their daily lives. Parents can instill teachings about God through examples, daily conversations, and stories. As soon as the child could speak, fathers should teach the essence of loving God as it is summarized in the Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

To fully understand the way Jewish parents educate their children, this study centers on three Biblical heroes, which are Samuel, Moses, and Josiah. The authors have chosen these three characters because they come from Jewish families who raised them to dedicate their lives to loving God. As a result, Samuel, Moses, and Josiah grew up as great leaders for Israel. The authors also found five educational principles that can be applied by Christian parents to educate their children in the midst of this era, to help Christian parents nurture their children to love God throughout their lives.

The Education Principles that Cultivate Christian Children's Faith to Love God

Israeli parents consider their role and responsibility in educating their children to love God as their life calling. They believe that children's education should be done according to God's will and plan (Pearl, 2014). In this study, the author studies the way Samuel, Moses, and Josiah's parents raised them to elaborate on the five principles that enable children to love God throughout their lives.

The Jewish Education that is Applied to Samuel

Samuel is an Old Testament figure who had a mother named Hannah, who believed that Samuel was God's answer to her prayer. Since he was raised by a mother who had great faith in God, Samuel received education through the example of a loving mother at the age of 3-4 years old (Church, 1976). He learned to believe that his mother loved God wholeheartedly and desired him to do the same. According to 1 Samuel 1:27-28, 3: 1-21, Samuel was dedicated to God and he was educated in the Tabernacle under Eli's guidance. The Lord started to guide Samuel in chapter 3 of the book of 1 Samuel until before he died in 1 Samuel chapter 25. Samuel learned to express his love to God faithfully and responsibly through the way he performed his daily routine. According to Parker, Hannah's example to obey God and faithfully praying for Samuel helped him to know, love, and serve God throughout his life (Excell 2013). Starting at an early age, Samuel was lent to God by his mother. Hannah's actions became an example for Samuel who grew up with the heart to love God. Samuel understood that his service to the Lord was a privilege. His mother's love to God paved the way for Samuel to be born and be dedicated to the service of the Lord all his life. Every year, Hannah would go to Shiloh and give him a new robe to wear while he was serving the Lord. Samuel willingly wears them whenever he served the Lord (Maxwell, 2007). His willingness to wear the robe of faith became his process in learning to hear from God directly and learn to show respect and love for God every time he performed his duties in God's house. From the beginning of his ministry until the end of his life, Samuel set an example as a person who loved God and worshiped Him with all his heart (Excell 2013).

The Jewish Education that is Applied to Moses

Moses is an extraordinary example of how an Old Testament leader succeeds in fulfilling God's mission for His people. He became an example that inspired every generation to live a life dedicated to fulfilling God's calling (Richards 2008). When Moses was born, Pharaoh the Egyptian king commanded that every baby boy in Israel should be killed. His mother, Jochebed, and his father, Amram, were faithful people who decided to keep and surrender Moses to God's providence. Kistemaker (2002) argues that it was God's sign for Moses' parents to take risks in keeping him as soon as they saw their baby's handsome face as it is written in Exodus 2:2. Therefore, even though Moses was born in a dangerous environment, he experienced a peaceful upbringing because his father and mother believed in God.

God's blessing and providence guided Moses even before he was born. According to Nyssa (1978), God protected and blessed Moses when he was still in his mother's womb and knowing the life-threatening situation that could harm her baby, it was possible that Jochebed prayed more for her child's safety. This allowed Moses to be blessed by his mother's prayer ever since he was still in the womb. Although he was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter and raised as a prince of Egypt, he still received spiritual education from his parents (Copay, 2002). Moses remembered his parents' teachings, which shaped his unyielding understanding of his real identity as a Hebrew. Thus, in the midst of Egypt's polytheistic culture and environment, Moses was able to maintain a firm faith in the living God and loved Him wholeheartedly. Moses believed that loving God above all things was shown through his willingness to suffer with His people regardless of his status as a prince.

When Moses fled from Egypt to Midian, God's providence was still with him. After learning to live a simple life as a shepherd, Moses received God's revelation and calling through a vision in a burning bush. This special encounter gave a profound impression on Moses to believe that the God he has been taught to know is the all-living and powerful God (Maclaren, 2020). Moses' parents had taught him the truth of God's miraculous faithfulness and providence, and because he had grown to love God, he was willing to obey His calling. Moses put God as the center of his life. Moses' childhood built a solid foundation of faith that guided him to see life through faith which is produced through trusting and loving God (Excell, 2013).

The Jewish Education that is Applied to Josiah

Josiah is a great example of how a child can grow in faith in God. Josiah was known as a king after God's heart. He became a king when he was eight years old and ruled the kingdom for thirty-one years in Jerusalem. (Barabas, 1976). Josiah decided to love and prioritized God in his life when he was fifteen. When he was nineteen, he courageously performed great things to bring the Israelites back to the true God. At the age of twenty-five, Josiah ordered the cleansing of God's house, which had an extraordinary impact. The discovery triggered national repentance led by Josiah (Barabas 1976). He made a firm decision in terms of worshiping God so that during his reign, the people did not turn away from God and only worshiped the living God (Alexander et al.1985).

Josiah knew that his father did not set a good example, he chose to follow God. By God's grace and sovereignty, he decided to lead the people with wisdom and understanding from God. As a result, Josiah became a chosen vessel who decide to live righteously by following God's way for him (Alexander et al. 1985). The Bible records the name Jedidah who was Josiah's mother. She was a Godly mother who lived according to God's word. The name Jedidah comes from the Hebrew word יְדִידָהּ that means beloved of God or honored by God (Excell 2013). When Jedidah's name is written in the Bible, it implies that she plays an important role in Josiah's life by being a mother who loved God. She set a good example as a godly mother who gave a positive and strong influence on her son. Her actions became a strong inspiration for Josiah who grew up into a person who feared and loved the Lord with all his heart.

The Five Principles that Cultivate Children's Love for God

Samuel, Moses, and Josiah are amazing Old Testament heroes who led Israel with God's guidance. Moreover, they were born and raised by Godly parents who prayed for them even before they were born. Their parents also loved them dearly and wanted them to grow up loving God. To achieve this, Samuel, Moses, and Josiah's parents dedicated them to the Lord and taught them to understand and show their identity as God's servants. As a result, Samuel, Moses, and Josiah grew up to be God's servants who obeyed His commandments in the middle of a nation that disobeyed Him. Looking at the way Samuel, Moses, and Josiah were brought up, the authors discovers five principles that can be used to cultivate children's love for God, which are:

1. Cultivating children's faith using Biblical Principles starting from pregnancy.
2. The fathers' role in applying spiritual discipline guided by the Old and New Testament teachings.
3. Building a loving and genuine relationship between parents and children from an early age.
4. Cultivating children's faith to understand God's Word and His providence.
5. Nurturing children's faith in an innovative, holistic, and integrative way using the Holy Bible.

Each of these principles is discussed in the sections below with the aim to guide Christian parents to educate their children to love God in the industrial revolution 4.0 era.

Cultivating Children's Faith using Biblical Principles Starting from Pregnancy

The first education principle for cultivating children's faith begins during pregnancy. This principle is based on how the parents of Samuel, Moses, and Josiah prayed for their children since they were conceived in the womb. According to Saragih (2019). Israeli parents are serious in educating their children from a young age because they see their children as heritage from God. This belief encourages Israeli parents to educate their children with love and responsibility, and therefore they start praying for their children when they are being conceived in the womb.

Parents should guide their children to worship, serve, and love God. Firstly, Jewish mothers listen to music. It is not proven that the mothers of Samuel, Moses, and Josiah listened to music while conceiving their children. Since Hannah, Jochebed, and Jedidah were mothers who had great faith and love for God, they could train their children to enjoy God when they worship Him. Listening to music and worshiping God can be applied by Christian parents to train their children to love God. Particularly, when the mothers listen to music and worship God, they can grow their babies' faith for God.

In addition, Jewish mothers talk to their unborn babies. Jewish mothers believe that although their babies are enclosed in the womb, they have the ability to listen to their surroundings. This method was applied by Hannah, Jochebed, and Jedidah who prayed for their children since they were in the womb. Specifically, Hannah prayed for Samuel before he was born. (1 Samuel 1-2) Jochebed prayed for Moses' protection since they were facing a life-threatening situation, and Jedidah prayed for Josiah based on her faith in God that was different from her husband's belief in the idols. By doing so, they were able to train their children to know and love God even during conception. This principle can be applied by Christian mothers when they conceive their babies who can feel emotions and listen to their surroundings during conception. By doing so, the babies can begin to know about God Who loves and create them.

The Father's Role in Applying Spiritual Discipline Guided by The Old and New Testament Teachings

The second principle in cultivating children's faith is emphasizing the father's role in applying spiritual discipline. This means that as soon as the children are born, fathers should be involved in educating their children using both the Old and New Testaments. In Jewish families, the fathers are expected to take charge of their children's education. They believe that it is God Himself who educates their children, (Hebrews 8:6-13) and fathers are the physical representation of God's love and leadership in the family. They applied the education system strictly and consistently so that their children can celebrate the Bar Mitzvah, or Son of the Torah when they turn thirteen. The way Israeli fathers raise their children can be used to raise Christian fathers' awareness in educating children. In doing so, Christian fathers can acknowledge their role as a father who should lead their families by applying spiritual discipline to their children.

The fathers' involvement and role in cultivating the children's faith is necessary to build a strong foundation that could form the children's character (Boiliu 2020). This happens because fathers represent God's presence in the family who aims to love and guide each family member to love the Lord. As a result, children can understand that God loves them and they are able to show their love and respect to God the same way they love their parents. However, in this era, fathers tend to be very busy working outside of the home. They spend most of their time pursuing careers to ensure that their family is provided for financially. As a consequence, fathers forget that they have the responsibility to love and spend time with their children. Often times fathers can think that it is the mothers' responsibility to raise their children, and thus neglect their children in pursuit of careers.

When fathers are absent from their children's lives, the children can feel lonely and unappreciated. This is proven by Lakhani and Nadeem (2017) who stated that children who grow up without their fathers tend to have a negative impact on their daily lives. Sons and daughters need their father's presence for playing sports, or reading bedtime stories. They feel that their interests are acknowledged by their fathers, also feel loved and accepted by their fathers who are willing to spend some time with them despite their busy schedule at work. When fathers can work from home, they can maintain a work and life balance and eventually teach them about God and fulfill God's commandment in guiding their children to love and honor Him.

Building A Loving and Genuine Relationship Between Parents and Children from an Early Age

The third education principle is building a loving and genuine relationship between parents and children from an early age. This principle can be applied after the child is born into the world. Deuteronomy

6:4-9, God explains how parents should teach their children to love God throughout their lives. Parents should have the commitment to give an example of how to love God wholeheartedly and apply it in their relationship with their children. This means that parents should build a loving and genuine relationship with their children by interacting with them and listening to them. When the children have experienced a loving relationship with their parents, they can see God's love for them and understand how to relate to Him.

This principle is applied by Jewish family relationship that tend to have no boundaries between parents and children. Specifically, according to Rastrygina (2016), Jewish parents will never compare their children with other children. Building a genuine and loving relationship is highly needed in this era when social interaction moved from direct interaction to cyberspace interaction.

Eliasaputra, Novalina, and Siahaan (2020) find out that this change in the method of communication relations causes a problem in establishing genuine relationships between humans. People prefer to rely on gadgets as means of communication because it is more convenient to do so rather than talking directly with each other. Looking at this phenomenon, it is important for parents to interact with their children and be present with them as a way to show love and build a genuine relationship because they would be able to develop positive interpersonal relationship skills (Wahyuti 2016).

When parents are present with their children, they can learn to love God the same way as they build a loving relationship with their parents. They have people who love them and lead them to believe that God loves them too. Parents need to build a genuine and loving relationship with their children to hinder them from the negative influence of this era. Patrikou (2016) elaborates that parents can set examples on how to use technology wisely, starting with limiting the usage of cell phones and other electronic gadgets, especially during mealtime. This behavior can bring a positive benefit for the whole family because it enhances the children's trust in their parents and strengthens their relationship with each other.

Cultivating Children's Faith to Understand God's Word and His Providence

The fourth principle is cultivating children's faith to understand God's providence. Every child is raised in a family that has its own unique journey where God is present with them. God's providence can be seen in the way Moses, Josiah, and Samuel were brought up by their parents. It is imperative to note that these three Biblical heroes' parents had limited abilities in raising them, especially when they experienced circumstances that did not encourage them to do so. Specifically, Moses was raised by Amram and Jochebed during a time when the Egyptians could easily kill him because he was a boy. Josiah was raised by Jedidah a loving mother when his father gave him bad influences. Samuel also had limited time to be with Hannah and Elkanah before his parents sent him off to Shiloh to become God's servant.

Each of these parents did not have an ideal time when they could teach their children from a young age until they reached adulthood. However, Samuel, Moses, and Josiah grew up to be God's servants who had a strong faith in carrying out His will to the Israelites. This proves that God was present in the upbringing of these three characters, and He is also still present in Christian families' lives who need to educate children in this era. It is important for Christian families to rely entirely on God's providence in raising their children. This means that parents should be fully committed to obeying God's will for each of their children so that they can understand that the most important thing in life is to love God wholeheartedly. To do this, parents should regard every special event in their children's life as a process that helps them experience God's love and develop affection toward Him.

Parents need to actively guide their children in facing any situation in their lives, especially in the midst of the industrial revolution 4.0. This era exposes children to an inclusive global community where children can access information to understand every situation that they experience. It is important for parents to guide their children to see that every situation in their life is a process where God is present with them. To do this, parents can use the lives of Samuel, Moses, and Josiah and link them to the children's life experiences, so that they can see that God is with them in every situation that they face. When parents guide their children to comprehend God's providence in their lives, then the children can trust God who is always there for them even though they cannot see Him.

It is crucial for parents to become trustworthy and reliable guardians for their children because this era is full of various information that is unreliable. When parents are present for their children and guide them to face any situation in life, it can shape the way God loves and guide them. This can lead children to understand and love God through their experience in trusting and loving their parents. Helping children to have the heart to love the Lord Jesus means taking children to His heart, and training children to have complete trust in God (Erik 1963). This process is both very crucial and precious to children because they can learn about God's love and providence with their parents that they can remember throughout their lives.

In addition, parents can celebrate with their children when they undergo spiritual moments in their lives. As an example, when the children are baptized at church, parents can celebrate the occasion with the church and other Christian families as a reminder of God’s providence in the children’s life. This celebration not only brings joy to the children but also makes them remember that God has guided their steps and He is happy to celebrate joyous occasions with them. This will lead the children to believe and love God who blesses them not only in divine moments but also in every life situation that they face in this era. By applying an education principle that relates life situations to God’s providence, the children can grow up with an understanding that God’s presence is a true and holistic life paradigm that is not limited to logic and information technology that this era offers.

Nurturing Children’s Faith in an Innovative, Holistic, And Integrative Way Using the Holy Bible

The last principle is nurturing children’s faith in an innovative, holistic, and integrative way. It is important for parents to integrate positive innovation that is obtained through the way Israeli families raise their children. By designing an education method that shapes the children’s identity as Christ’s disciples framed as an innovative, holistic and integrative process that unites faith, knowledge and daily life. Parents, schools and churches share responsibility for cultivating children’s identity as disciples of Christ by embedding spiritual formation in to family practices, church traditions. Designing an integrative model of education to help children process their lifelong love for God, which does not separate faith from science nor separate daily life from spiritual life, interprets life holistically by covering all dimensions of children’s lives and relating it to God. An education method that is innovative to use technology to communicate information creatively, so that children would be interested to learn (Lase 2016), also children would grow in faith and understand that God is the source of truth.

Technology, when guided responsibly, offers significant pedagogical potential. It can creatively engage children, foster curiosity, and affirm God’s presence in everyday contexts. Parents and school leaders must collaborate to monitor children’s digital use, directing them toward constructive content that enhances talents and strengthens faith. By affirming that abilities are divine gifts, children are encouraged to employ their skills for God’s glory, thereby cultivating a lifelong love for Him. It is important for parents to be active in their children’s learning process and help them to understand God’s love by not separating the Bible from education nor technology. The children are guided to experience and love God through anything that they do.

CONCLUSIONS

Primary data for this study were collected through structured in-depth interviews with 20 parents from the same Christian school. The research instrument comprised 18 thematic questions designed to explore parental roles in shaping children’s spirituality and character. This comprehensive tool examines subjective experiences in religious pedagogy and spiritual mentor-ship, focusing on four primary themes:

1. **Spiritual Foundations (Questions 1–3).** This section assesses the parents’ conscious efforts to introduce the divine presence from the prenatal stage through early childhood. Key areas include prenatal spiritual stimulation (music and prayer), early faith communication, and the establishment of childhood prayer habits to build a foundational spiritual consciousness.
2. **Paternal Spiritual Leadership (Questions 4–7, 10).** This theme highlights the crucial role of the father as a spiritual leader. It evaluates active paternal involvement in providing religious guidance, emotional bonding, and modeling worship (e.g., family altars). Furthermore, it examines the father’s support in developing the child’s talents, intellect, and self-esteem within a theological framework, as well as their role in encouraging church engagement.
3. **Internalization of Faith during Crisis (Questions 11–16)** This dimension explores how parents instill the doctrine of Divine Providence across various life circumstances. It analyzes strategies for teaching gratitude during prosperity and maintaining faith during crises, such as economic hardship or bereavement. Additionally, it investigates parental guidance in Biblical literacy and personal spiritual struggles, culminating in the child’s personal confession of faith in Jesus Christ.
4. **Modern Parenting and Digital Relevance (Questions 8, 9, 17, 18)** Focusing on parenting in the era of Industry 4.0 and Society 5.0, this theme addresses contemporary challenges. It covers digital literacy—specifically parental mentorship and role-modeling in gadget and social media usage—and the identification of obstacles or failures encountered in navigating modern parenting.

The implementation of these five principles was tracked from early childhood through age 18, spanning the years 2004 to 2020. Follow-up interviews with the children were conducted in 2024 to provide a longitudinal perspective. The study found that Christian parenting in the digital era is a dynamic spiritual ecosystem with several conclusions, first, children's resilience to the challenges of Industry 4.0 is highly dependent on the strength of their early spiritual foundations and their understanding of the Providence of God. Second, the importance of the father's role, which is the father's spiritual leadership that serves as a vital bridge between theological doctrine and daily practice, providing a concrete model of faith for children. Strategies for managing digital technology must shift from parental actions to limiting children, towards dialogical guidance, to integrate Biblical values into digital reality. This study underscores the important role of parents in shaping their children's spiritual formation through the consistent application of five principles of Christian faith education.

This section focuses on the spiritual state of the children as research subjects at the time the study is reported. First, spiritual status: how children define their personal relationship with God. Turning Point (Conversion): The pivotal moment when children consciously accept Jesus Christ. How children express their love for God at their current age. Second, the role of parents as role models of faith, parental honesty in addressing vulnerability and faith, and open spaces for discussion about biblical truth. This study explores children's subjective narratives regarding their perceptions of their fathers and mothers as role models of faith.

The results indicate that children's personal relationships with Jesus Christ are shaped not only by biblical doctrinal teachings but also by the consistency of parental behavior (authenticity), open dialogue, and wise conflict resolution within the household. Children witness a living faith when parents consistently practice humility, forgiveness, and obedience, especially in difficult situations. This builds children's trust in the truth of the Biblical doctrine being taught. When children feel unconditionally loved, they more easily project that love unto God. Children also described the importance of being able to freely ask questions, express doubts, or discuss their faith without judgment. Parents who act as spiritual facilitators—not sole authorities—create a safe space for children to explore their faith independently but with guidance, and ultimately make authentic personal commitments.

This study found that the success of implementing spiritual discipline for children is not measured by how strictly the rules are enforced, but by how Christ's character is reflected in the lives of the parents. Children also highly value parents who have the courage to admit mistakes and apologize. Children who witness their parents living out the faith and spiritual disciplines they are taught will not only come to know their parents' God but will choose to love and follow Jesus Christ as a lifelong commitment. Evidence from in-depth interviews with 20 children from families where parents seriously practice family worship, prayer, Bible stories, role models, and involvement in church services shows that children grow into adults with a strong faith, a genuine love for God, and a strong commitment. Testimonies from parents and children confirm that such consistency, modeled on Jewish family traditions and Biblical exemplary lives, produces a faith capable of withstanding the cultural and technological pressures of this era.

Children whose parents are inconsistent in implementing spiritual discipline admit that they themselves do not experience strong spiritual growth. They are more susceptible to secular worldviews and require a very hard struggle in living as loving and committed disciples of Christ. The results of this study emphasize that applying the principles of faith formation requires a total and ongoing active commitment from parents.

Ultimately, this study confirms that although the challenges of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 are unavoidable, Christian parents are not helpless; the challenges are very formidable. However, by applying Biblical principles to the lives of the three Bible Heroes can help Christian parents to raise their children to love God and develop good character. Also contributes to the broader discourse on Christian education by demonstrating that parental consistency in spiritual discipline is both a theological mandate and a practical necessity for nurturing strong, enduring faith in the next generation.

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