

Two Myths from **Leslie Leyland Fields - Parenting Is Your Highest Calling and Eight Other Myths That Trap us in Worry and Guilt.**

Myth #8: Successful parents produce _____ children.

Never measure success in parenting or allow others based on how your children turned out.

Myth # 9: God approves of only one _____ .

Dysfunctional/Imperfect families in Scripture: Solomon, David, Samuel, Jehoshaphat, Jotham, Hezekiah, Ahaz and Amon.

Proverbs 22:6

Psalms 127:4

Deuteronomy 6

Matthew 22

1. Parenting trials can help you see your own sin more clearly.
2. The Lord helps those who _____
3. The goal is not to win the battle between you and your children!
The goal must always be to _____ .
4. A parenting trial can allow you to experience God's grace – making us more dependent on the Lord, not driving us from Him.
5. Keep your focus on God and not on the trial or your _____.
6. All your parenting trial to force you to place your joy where it should have been all along– In God, in our salvation & in our Savior.
7. Allow Parenting Trials to drive you to desperate _____.

II Corinthians 12 / Jeremiah 17:5-8

Parenting Prayer from *When Good Kids Make Bad Choices*

"Father, I know that I've prayed about this many times before, but now I'm willing to give this situation fully over to You. Forgive me for my worry and for thinking that by my continued thought I would be able to change the course of my child's life. Forgive me for failing to trust in You and Your goodness and for thinking that my plan was better than Yours. I entrust my child to You now, and although I would pray that this cup of suffering would pass from me, I'm now willing to say with my Savior, 'Not my will, but Thine be done.'

I submit myself to Your plan, even though I don't understand it, because I know You. You're a good Father. I also pray that you would help me get my eyes off of myself and my troubles and onto serving others and building Your kingdom. I trust You for the grace to make it through whatever may come. Thank you for your faithfulness. Amen."

From the same book:

The pain of watching older children move in wrong directions, knowing that no word of rebuke or instruction will reach them, can be overwhelming. The work of God's grace in a parent's heart is most fully revealed when, after admitting their helplessness to bring about the change they deeply desire in their children, they persist in love. There's more to love than we think. The implications of our Lord dying for us 'while we were yet sinners' are staggering. Perhaps the great need of the church today is to face how badly we love and then to enter more fully into the costly grace of our forgiving Lord."