

# BIBLICAL PARENTING 101



Week 1: What is Biblical Parenting?

How would you define successful parenting?

How would you define the goal of Biblical parenting?

The goal of Biblical parenting is to point your children to Christ by raising them in the training and instruction of the Lord.

From Jana Magruder, *Nothing Less*, p. 29

FEW AMERICAN PARENTS INCLUDE THEIR KIDS' **GODLINESS OR FAITH** IN THEIR DEFINITION OF SUCCESSFUL PARENTING.

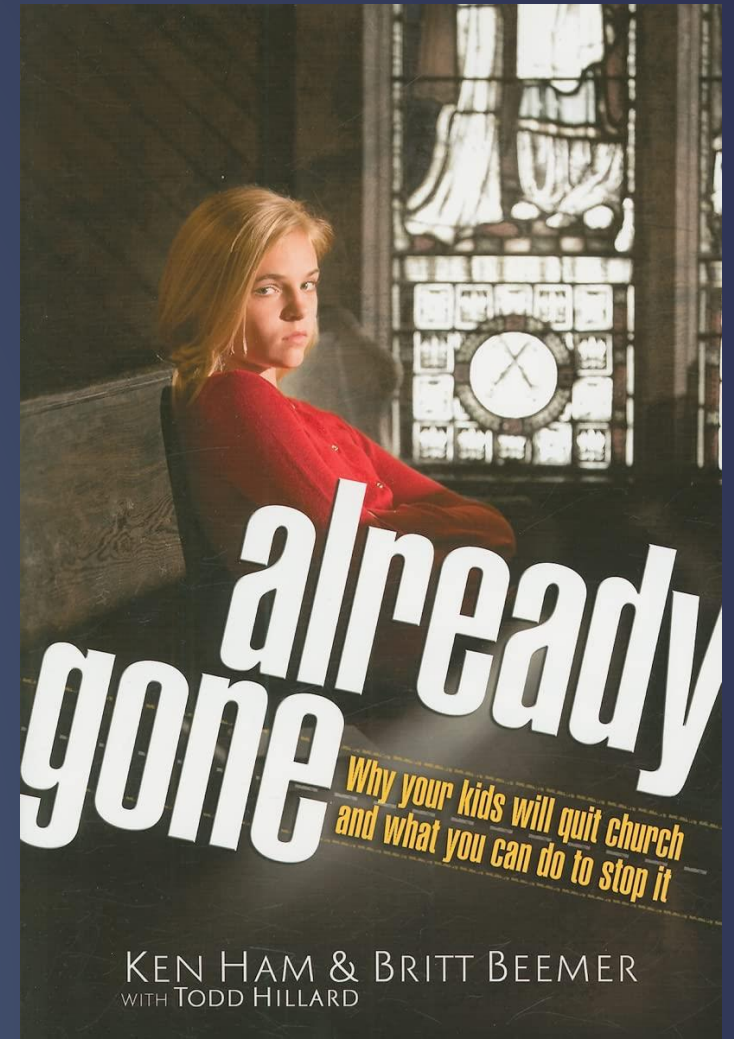


## What are the Prospects for Young Professing Christians?

In a recent Barna Research Survey, 58% of young adults who attended church every week when they were teenagers did not attend church at all by the time they were 29.

Britt Beamer of American Research Group studied 20,000 young people in the early 2000's who said they attended church every week growing up, but rarely attend today. 40% already had doubts about the truth of the Bible in Middle School, another 44% in High school, and an additional 11% while in college.

See Ken Ham and Britt Beamer *Already Gone: Why Your Kids Will Quit Church and What You Can Do to Stop It* (Master Books, 2009).



## Where do most Americans look for parenting advice?

1) Their experience growing up – 91%

2) Their parents – 65%

3) Their friends – 62%

4) Their spouse – 58%

5) Sacred text – 46%

6) Their church – 43%

89% of American households own at least one copy of the Bible.

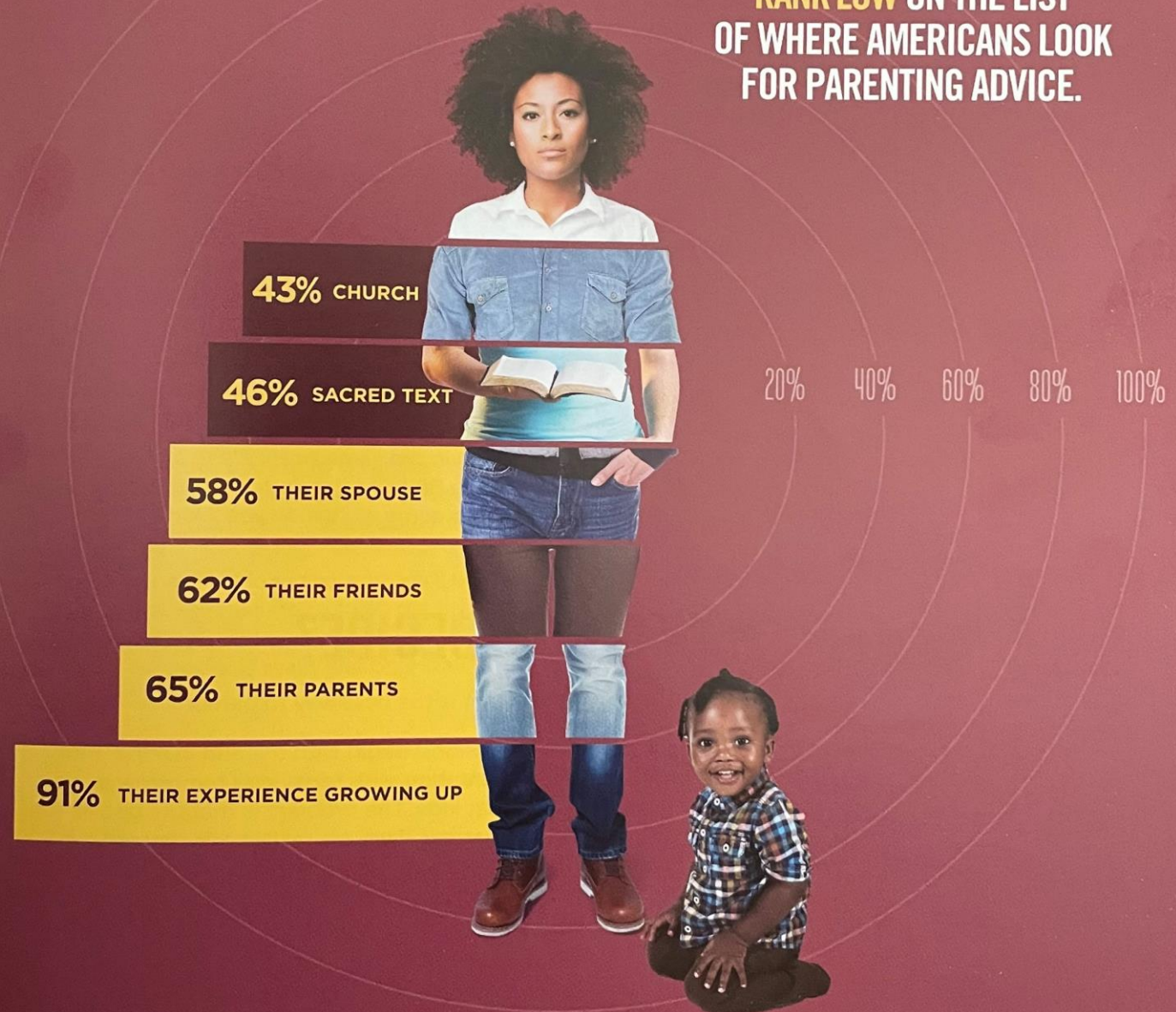
Only 11% of Americans have read the Bible in its entirety.

23% have read only a few sentences or less.

While 77% of parents surveyed by Lifeway Research identify as Christians, only 14% are very familiar with what the Bible says about parenting.

From Jana Magruder, *Nothing Less*, p. 23

THE CHURCH AND THE BIBLE RANK LOW ON THE LIST OF WHERE AMERICANS LOOK FOR PARENTING ADVICE.



# What does the Bible say about Parenting?

## Psalm 127:3-5

Behold, children are a gift of the Lord,  
The fruit of the womb is a reward.  
Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,  
So are the children of one's youth.  
How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;  
They will not be ashamed  
When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

## Deuteronomy 6:6-9

These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.  
You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit  
in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when  
you rise up.  
You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your  
forehead.  
You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

## Ephesians 1:3

Fathers do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline [training] and instruction of the Lord

## 2 Timothy 3:14-15

Continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

## Proverbs 1:8

Hear, my son, your father's instruction  
And do not forsake your mother's teaching.

## Joel 1:3

Tell your sons about it,  
And *let* your sons *tell* their sons,  
And their sons the next generation.

## Psalm 78:5-7

For He established a testimony in Jacob  
And appointed a law in Israel,  
Which He commanded our fathers  
That they should teach them to their children,  
That the generation to come might know, *even* the children yet to be born,  
*That* they may arise and tell *them* to their children,  
That they should put their confidence in God  
And not forget the works of God,  
But keep His commandments.

## Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go,  
Even when he is old he will not depart from it.



**J. C. Ryle: “Precious, no doubt, are these little ones in your eyes; but if you love them, think often of their souls.... No part of them should be so dear to you as that part which will never die. The world, with all its glory, shall pass away; the hills shall melt.... But the spirit which dwells in those little creatures, whom you love so well, shall outlive them all.... In every step you take about them, in every plan, and scheme, and arrangement that concerns them, do not leave out the mighty question, 'How will this affect their souls?'"**

**Christian Smith surveyed 3000 teenagers and conducted 250 in depth interviews in the early 2000's. His conclusion was that parents are the most influential factor in shaping the future of their religious lives.**

**Jonathan Edwards: “Every Christian family ought to be as it were a little church, consecrated to Christ, and wholly influenced and governed by his rules. And family education and order are some of the chief means of grace. If these fail, all other means are likely to prove ineffectual. If these are duly maintained, all the means of grace will be likely to prosper and be successful.”**

# AUTHORITY & RESPONSIBILITY IN THE WORLD

