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## The Five Pillars of Parenthood ~ Part 3

So far in our series, we have been talking about laying the foundation for successful Christian parenting. If we have taught our children to discern good from evil and taught our children to manage their lives wisely, then we are ready for the next pillar.

**Pillar #3 ~ Teach your children to work as “unto the Lord.”** As a parent, you should help your child discover God’s calling for his life, so that he can impact his world and beyond. The word “work” in our era has been given a negative connotation, when in fact, work is a gift from God. The first time that work is mentioned in the Bible is Genesis 2:15, when Adam is given this gift from God. “The Lord God took the man and put in him the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”

Children need to understand:

- Work is a “calling,” not a job.
- All work is sacred (even homework).
- Our work is to flow from God’s unique design and purpose for our lives.
- Our work is for an audience of one ~ the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our work should be excellent because of who we are working for. A way to help your children become good workers is to require them to be faithful in the little things (Luke 16:10). As they learn to do the small things well, then increase their responsibilities. And hold your children to their word. Let their “yes” be “yes” and their “no” be “no” (Matthew 5:37). Finally, when your children fail, and they will, remind them that failure is never final with God. Moses failed, and God still used him. Peter failed but didn’t give up. David failed but was still called “a man after God’s own heart.”

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.”  
~ Colossians 3:23

**Truth to take away: Do What You Are, To the Glory of God.**

(Read about Pillar #4 in the May issue of the CHA News.)

*Some thoughts and phrases taken from Pastor Chip Ingram’s teaching, “How to Raise Positive Kids in a Negative World.”*