



Oh Boy!
June 12, 2022
Proverbs 22:6

Connect

- Name the hardest training experience you ever endured/survived/conquered! What made it challenging? How did it shape your perspective on life?

Engage

- Read *Proverbs 22:6*. A one sentence scripture often lacks the punch for sermonic consideration. However, this famed Proverb, packs some punch, even in its lack of clarity. What do you glean from a surface read of the verse?
- The text doesn't suggest what "way" the child should be taught to go. What is implied in this absence of detail? Would greater clarity be preferred? Why or why not?
- Many resources for parenting well fall short of being all that helpful. What resources in the realm of parenting or mentoring children have you found helpful – or less than helpful. What makes a resource valuable?
- For decades, churches have said, "We want young families in the church!" For some this meant, "We want to see kids but not hear kids." Others longed for every sound and squeal and longed for their full inclusion in the life of the church. What do you see as the role of children in the church? In what ways can you help create a healthy environment for young families to grow and thrive within our congregation?
- Rev. Beau Underwood, our guest proclaimer for the day, admitted, "I need your help raising our son." What does it mean for the church to help raise the children of the church? Have you been engaged in this in some way? If so, how?

Next Steps

- Commit to being part of a village that helps raise the children of the church. In what ways can you get involved with Children's or Youth Ministries at the church? It might seem as small as a word of encouragement to our Sunday School teachers or it may be getting involved as a teacher yourself. Perhaps it's making food for a youth lock-in or sponsoring a child for church camp. There are so many helpful ways to be a meaningful part of the village. Pick a way and make good on it this week.

Pray

"Training is always in season, God. May we always be intentional in our own spiritual disciplines that we might continue to grow in our discipleship. Make us aware of those who look up to us in this walk of faith as well. Strengthen us to teach well and model your love and grace in their lives. Amen."