

TEACHING YOUR CHILD TO GET BACK UP

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Every child is going to experience three types of crashes in their young lives:

Unprovoked circumstances

Unmet opportunities

Moral compromise

These are inescapable and unavoidable, but can all be prepared for. The way a parent responds to their child's crash will largely determine how their child will respond to their crash. We must help parents understand that it is not their job to control either their child's behavior, their child's response, or their child's environment. We are not the managers of our children's lives. We are partners with God to shape their hearts.

We have to teach parents to walk with them through their crashes.

They must learn to bear the burden of the situation without:

- 1. Making all things right**
- 2. Removing natural consequences**
- 3. Being their child's savior**

In the end, we must help our children depend on the Lord and not on us. We will be faithful with the time and abilities we have, but in the end, we must create a dependence on their savior.

“He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue him. Let Him deliver him, since he delights in him.”

Psalm 22.8

Five Ways a Parent Can Bear the Burden

1. Explain God's pruning process.
2. Invite them into your spiritual valleys/mountain peaks.
3. Be willing to share your own life mistakes.
4. Model biblical restoration by asking for forgiveness yourself.
5. Discipline in the context of a relationship.

“Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”

Proverbs 12.18 (NIV)

6. Provide a path back to wholeness and holiness.

“Wise discipline imparts wisdom.” Proverbs 29:15 (Message)