

Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati 405 West Seventh Street Cincinnati, OH 45203 (513) 381-3858 www.union-baptist.net Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

## WE MUST NURTURE OUR CHILDREN

.... Ephesians 6:4 tells us to "bring them up." This verb is the same Greek word used in Ephesians 5;29, which says, "No one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes ... it, just as Christ also does the church" (emphasis added). In the same way that a husband should nourish and nurture his wife, parents need to nurture their children. The idea is to feed and care for them.

This goes well beyond putting food on table. Luke 252 says that as a child and young person, Jesus grew intellectually, physically, spiritually, and socially. These are the four areas in which children need nurturing.

Most of us believe passionately in our children's physical, social, and intellectual development. We make sure they have clothes and shelter. We try to see that they eat right and get enough sleep. We help them learn how to mix with other people so they don't feel odd and left out, and we monitor their choice of friends so they aren't playing with the wrong crowd. And we keep a close eye on their grades so we know what they're learning.

God says we should take the same kind of care with our children's spiritual development. We need to know how well they're being fed in church and Sunday school. We need to make sure we are giving them a regular diet of spiritual nourishment at home. AMEN.

**Dr. Tony Evans** 

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18-20

