



Sunday, June 28, 2026
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Big Idea: The best summer begins by pursuing righteousness that points us toward Christ.

Proverbs 22:6 — Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Isaiah 61:3 — ... that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

1. Righteousness Begins with Christ

2 Corinthians 5:21 — For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Righteousness ≠ merely doing good.

Biblical Righteousness = the natural expression of a transformed heart that has learned to live in the kingdom of God.

Two Types of Righteousness

- Positional righteousness (This is extended.)
- Practical righteousness (This is chosen.)

2. God Loves and Blesses Righteousness

The Lord loves righteousness

1 Chronicles 29:17 — *I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness...*

Psalms 11:7 — *For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.*

The Lord blesses righteousness

Psalms 5:12 — *For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.*

Psalms 106:3 — *Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times.*

Psalms 84:11 — *For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.*

Psalms 34:15 — *The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.*

Proverbs 3:33 — *The curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just.*

God is continually moving toward people who pursue righteousness. Because righteousness reflects His own character.

3. Jesus Is the Perfect Example of Righteousness

Psalm 45:7 — Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

1 John 2:1 — My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

The Christian life is not about achieving and following a list of rules or obeying a set of expectations. The only rule and goal is simple: Is this allowing / shaping / changing / causing me to become more like Jesus?

4. Teach Righteousness Intentionally

- Teach righteousness during family devotions.
- Point out examples when you see it.
- Praise right choices.
- Connect everyday situations back to Scripture.
- Make obeying God enjoyable.

Look for one opportunity every day to point your children toward Christlike character.

Conclusion

“What matters most?”

The best summer isn’t measured by memories made.

It’s measured by hearts transformed.

The best summer begins by intentionally leading our families toward Christlike righteousness.