

- 5) The word “exasperate” is used in verse 21. It relates to the effect of “provoking” or the “stirring up” of attitudes or emotions.
- a. According to that verse, what is the result when a child becomes exasperated?

 - b. What do you think becomes the effect of that condition?

6) Pastor Wes gave us 21 ways that parents can exasperate their children.

- 1) Disciplining in anger
- 2) Being inconsistent
- 3) Not giving clear commands
- 4) Disciplining them in front of others (especially peers)
- 5) Disciplining them for childish behavior
- 6) Excessive discipline
- 7) Failing to discipline
- 8) Failing to give instruction
- 9) Unreasonable expectations
- 10) Being a hypocrite
- 11) Never asking forgiveness
- 12) Constant criticism
- 13) Mocking your children
- 14) Lack of affection or encouragement
- 15) Neglect
- 16) Favoritism
- 17) Comparing them to others
- 18) Focusing on achievement rather than character
- 19) Not treating them according to their age
- 20) Overprotection
- 21) Treating them as if you were their peer

Application If you are currently raising children – Review the list item by item, asking the Lord to help you recognize and correct current trouble spots in your parenting.

Application Since you were once a child – Review the list item by item, asking the Lord to help you recognize and remember treatment you experienced from your parents that is still painful to think about. Have you forgiven them for their failures? If not, remember that “whoever has a complaint against anyone, just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you”. (Colossians 3:13b)