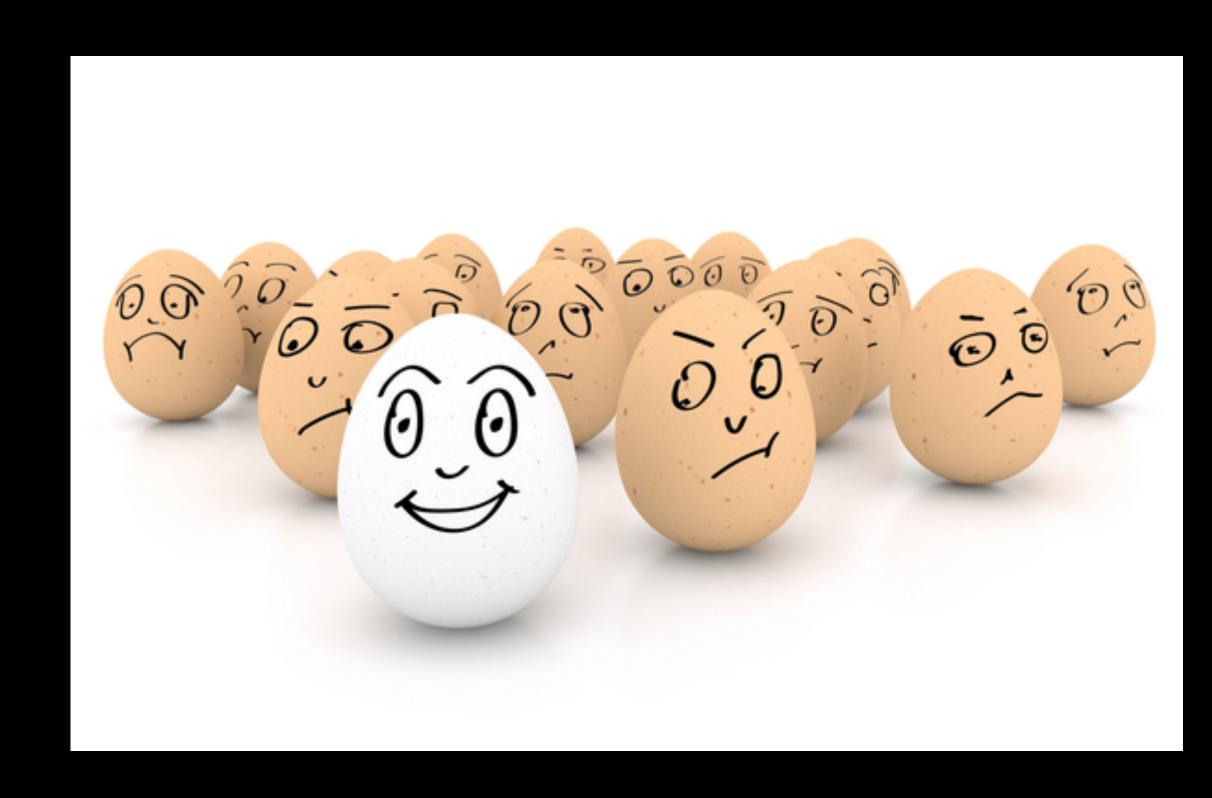
casting Your cares

- When we desire to impress others, we will cause many cares to overwhelm us. Prov. 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.
- The desire to look good to others comes from low self-worth and discontentment. Psa. 139:14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.
- Salvation is supposed to make us new creatures, but when we are prideful, salvation does not bring us contentment. 1John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.





- Pride plagues the homes of many present-day believers. Men and women with this spirit cast aside their God-given creation roles for their own desire to look a certain way to others. 1Tim. 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.
- Unfortunately, many parents have neglected their children while seeking ways to be exalted or lifted up in the eyes of family and friends. Prov. 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.
- When we invest in ourselves to impress others, we will have severe cares later on in life because we chose to ignore the needs of our children and spouses. It is impossible to selfishly seek our own way while meeting our family's needs. Prov. 17:25 A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him.

- When selfish expectations or negative things are spoken over us at a young age, they can cause us to strive and totally abandon our creation roles. Prov. 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.
- Consequently, when nothing is spoken over us, it can cause us to seek our own way as well. Neglect can be just as dangerous as negative speech. In the long run, both reactions will lead to heavy cares. Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.
- It's hard to speak life and God's will over our children when we are not following God's will ourselves. As a result, our children go without it and are left to themselves concerning their spiritual state. Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.





The absolute hardest burdens to carry are the cares that come from wayward children. We are living in a time where our children are easily misguided by what they hear in music, what they see on tv, movies, and the internet, and what they learn from their peers. This is why it's so important that they see and hear the right thing from us as parents. We are their examples, their teachers, and their leaders. We are totally responsible for their wellbeing and we cannot avoid it. We must put aside our selfish motives and desires and make sure we are training them up in the way they should go. This is the way of the Lord. However, we must first model this behavior before we can effectively teach this behavior. The Bible says that if they are trained up right, they will not depart from it. We must deny ourselves and invest wholly in them. Affectation in a parent will greatly multiply affectation in the children. We must make sacrifices and do whatever we can to eliminate these heavy cares and to ensure the wellbeing of our families. Instead of trying to impress outsiders, we should impress our family by showing how committed we are to them.

Psa. 127:3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

Psa. 127:4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Psa. 127:5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.