

Mother's Day 2007

May 13, 2007

Make your time with the kids count for God

Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.

Deuteronomy chapter 6 verse 7 (144)

- This assumes relationship!!
- Use the daily mundane & repetitive moments to sing to your kids, pray for your kids, talk to them about God's love & plan for them
- Interact with what you're doing & turn it into a praise or a prayer
- Turn the mundane & repetitive into opportunities to worship

It's normal to be tired, exhausted

Jesus said, "Come to Me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." *Matthew chapter 11 verse 28 (742)*

- Jesus calls the weary to him
- weary = fatigued, carry heavy burdens = those who are loaded up, over burdened
- Rest when your kids rest
- You cannot get everything done, so prioritize. Your priority should be your family & you, not the housework
- Husbands, you have to be actively involved & help!
- Recognize the stages your child are in, and realize these do not go on forever...so enjoy them!!

It's normal to be confused, unsure of yourself

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take. *Proverbs chapter 3 verses 5 & 6 (482)*

- Put your entire heart & effort into being the best parent you can be. When God gives you kids, there is no more important calling on your life than being a parent!
- Lean on God & follow him. Stay close to him so you can "hear" him & recognize his promptings in your life
- Lean on & learn from other godly parents
- Let the church help you through kids classes, youth group, the women's Bible study (*Tuesday morning w/ child care*)

In the midst of this turmoil, give thanks to God

Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again, rejoice! *Philippians chapter 4 verse 4 (901)*

- I can choose to be glad / happy IN God! Why?
- ***"I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."*** *Jeremiah chapter 29 verse 11 (596)*
- ***O Lord...what joy (happiness!) for those who trust in you.*** *Psalms 84 verse 12 (452)*
- ***We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God....*** *Romans chapter 8 verse 28 (862)*
- Remember, God is in control. So become a "good spotter," a "good finder!"

Love yourself so you can love your kids

Jesus said, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew chapter 19 verse 19 (750)

- Jesus assumes we love ourselves, so do whatever necessary to be able to love yourself in a God honoring way
- After asking God for forgiveness, forgive yourself. Don't hide your story or consequences, allow them to be a part of “your story”
- Realize that “your issues” become your kids’ “issues!!”
- Let go of the past, your failures. Live out who you are in Christ. Be the person Christ says you are
- This is a life-long journey. So start it! Do it! Model it for your kids!

Don't squander your influence

I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you.

2 Timothy chapter 1 verse 5 (914)

- Mom, God has given you a specific, special & unique role to play in the lives of your kids
- When you nurture your kids, nurture their spiritual side as well

Mothering is a thankless job...make sure you get your value & worth from Christ

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago. Ephesians chapter 2 verse 10 (896)

- As a mom, you're on duty 24 / 7 / 365
- Kids don't always say thanks or show their appreciation
- Husbands & dads: teach your kids, show your kids, model for your kids what it is to value their mom!

Never check-out of the “influence” game

Older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children, to live wisely and be pure.... Titus chapter 2 verses 4 & 5 (917)

Here's God's plan:

- That we grow in wisdom thru life
- That we learn valuable lessons thru life
- That we are moving towards full-devotion in Christ thru life
- **SO THAT** as we approach mid-life & our senior years with our kids raised, we now have the experience, godliness & time to invest in the lives of those who are younger