



Parents Should Treasure Moments With Their Children

Are there simple things that parents take for granted in their lives? Do they overlook the fact that the ordinary activities throughout their day with their children can delight and mean the most to them? Consider Psalm 127:3, “Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him.” Watch for moments to treasure with your children; take advantage of every day.

Here are some ways to begin:

- Ask questions. Robert C. Crosby, author of Conversation Starters for Parents and Kids, stresses that questions are one of the most influential tools that a parent can use to begin conversation with a child. By using questions, you begin to invest in your child’s likes and dislikes, opinions and beliefs. Your child may then be more open than if you attempt to get him or her interested in what you have to say on the matter.
- Deliberately use encouraging words. As humans, we thrive on praise. Simple statements can really alter your child’s attitude. In Words Kids Need to Hear, David Staal gives seven statements that can turn a child’s world around. Use the following phrases regularly – “I treasure you”; “I believe in you”; “You can count on me”; “I’m sorry, please forgive me”; “Because (explaining your reasoning)”; “No” and “I love you”.
- Pray with your child frequently. Too many people raise their children to love the Lord, but they do not share their spiritual lives with them. By expressing your trust in God through consistent prayer, your child may also begin to make prayer a habit.