


What are your desires for your child?

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• Well rounded?	Or	Christ –centered?
• Well behaved?		Repentant and broken
• Successful?		Biblically focused
• Independent?		Dependent on God
• Content?		World Changer



Age Characteristics/Spiritual Development


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2-3 Year Olds

- Literal, Concrete thinking
- Learn through play and senses
- One focus at a time

What They Can Learn

- The Bible is a book that has stories about God and Jesus
 - Church is a happy place
 - I can talk to God, Jesus is my friend
- God made the world, God made me, God loves me.



Age Characteristics/Spiritual Development


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4-5 Year Olds

- Beginning to separate fantasy from reality
- Literal, concrete thinker

What They Can Learn

- God's book is true
- I am part of my church family
- I can trust God
- God loves me even when I disobey
- God is wise and powerful



Age Characteristics/Spiritual Development


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6-8 Year Olds

- Literal and concrete
- Becoming more creative
- Developing reasoning skills

What They Can Learn

- The Bible has answers to my questions
- I can share God's love with others
- God helps me do what is right
- God forgives
- Jesus is my Savior



Age Characteristics/Spiritual Development


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9-11 Year Olds

- Beginning to grasp abstract concepts
- Reasoning ability

What They Can Learn

- God's plan is seen in history
- I can bring friends to church and tell them God's story
- Jesus is my hero; Jesus is my Lord
- God has a plan for my life



Are we truly concerned about
Producing a Kingdom Disciple...

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- *By the Word and the Spirit*
- What is a Kingdom Disciple?

One who has...

A Heart that loves King Jesus.

A Mind that thinks like King Jesus.

A Life that follows and serves King Jesus.



Practically speaking, what does that look like?

Can we expect to see a fourteen year-old who...

- **LOVES JESUS**
- **LOVES HIS CHURCH**
- **LOVES HIS WORD**
- **SERVES HIS PEOPLE**
- **NEEDS HIS PEOPLE**

Can we expect to see a fourteen year-old who...

- **TRUSTS JESUS IN TRIALS**
- **FINDS STRENGTH IN ETERNAL SECURITY**
- **RECOGNIZES THE ENEMY AND HIS SCHEMES**
- **LONGS TO SHARE THE GOSPEL IN WORD AND DEED**
- **PRAYS CONTINUALLY THAT THESE TRUTHS MAY BE CERTAIN IN HIS LIFE AND IN THE LIVES OF HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

LUKE 6:40
Any student when fully trained will be like his teacher.



WHO ARE WE THAT THEY MAY FOLLOW OUR EXAMPLE AS KINGDOM DISCIPLES?



one who LOVES JESUS

HIS NAME MUST BE EVER ON OUR LIPS AS WE LEAD LITTLE CHILDREN TO WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

one who LOVES JESUS' CHURCH

WE MUST KNOW THE CHILDREN AND SHOW LOVE TOWARD THE CHILDREN IN OUR CHURCH.



one who LOVES THE WORD

WE MUST LOVE THE WORD OURSELVES AND BELIEVE IN ITS POWER UNTO SALVATION

one who SERVES HIS PEOPLE



OUR CHILDREN MUST BE TRAINED TO COME ALONGSIDE US IN MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT THE EARLIEST AGE POSSIBLE.



one who NEEDS THE BODY

WE MUST SERVE THEM WELL IN WORD AND DEED SO THEY MAY DEVELOP A HEALTHY RELIANCE UPON GOD'S PEOPLE.

one who TRUSTS HIM IN TRIALS

Are we telling our God stories so that our church's children are continually seeing proof of His faithfulness and sufficient grace?



one who FINDS STRENGTH IN ETERNAL SECURITY

Are we giving very intentional gospel presentations? Do they witness our own delight in the surety of an eternal heavenly home?



one who RECOGNIZES THE ENEMY AND HIS SCHEMES

We must not be afraid to name him and point out his antics... To pray against him.

*Lord's Prayer




one who LONGS TO INTRODUCE JESUS TO THE WORLD.... IN WORD AND DEED



Are the children following our lead as we passionately take the Gospel outside our church to the community and the world?

one who PRAYS CONTINUALLY THAT THESE THINGS MAY BE SO


Are we praying the Lord's prayer on Sunday morning only?
Lord, teach us to pray.



Teach us to Pray...Luke 11

OUR FATHER ...
WHO ART IN HEAVEN ...
HALLOWED BE THY NAME ...
THY KINGDOM COME ...
THY WILL BE DONE ...
GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD ...
FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE FORGIVE ...
LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION DELIVER US FROM EVIL ...
FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, POWER, AND GLORY FOREVER.

- Use these directives to write a prayer for your child *




BEGINNING AT HOME

- Catechism training
- Scripture memory (ABC)
- Training in skills – 4-steps
- Household chores
- Bible Study
- Evangelism
- Service
- Prayer...



THE FOUR-STEP TRAINING METHOD

1. HAVE THEM WATCH YOU
2. LET THEM HELP YOU
3. WATCH THEM AS THEY DO IT
4. LET THEM DO IT



RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

- GOSPEL – POWERED PARENTING by William P. Farley
- SHEPHERDING A CHILD'S HEART and INSTRUCTING A CHILD'S HEART by Ted Tripp
- HEART OF THE HOME by Priscilla Stewart and Sue Jakes
- PARENTING BY GOD'S PROMISES by Joel Beeke
- HEIRS OF THE COVENANT by Susan Hunt
- WORLD-PROOF YOUR KIDS and OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM by Tim Sizemore
- PARENTING IN THE PEW by Robbie Castleman
- HOW CHILDREN RAISE PARENTS by Dan Allender

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- HYMNS FOR A CHILD'S HEART any volume available by Joni Earekson Tada
- THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE by Sally Lloyd-Jones
- READ-ALoud BIBLE STORIES Vols. 1-4 by Ella K. Lindvall
- THE CHILD'S STORY BIBLE by Catherine F. Vos
- MY ABC BIBLE VERSES CURRICULUM by Susan Hunt
- GOD'S STORY BIBLE COLORING BOOK by Great Commission Publications
- PILGRIM'S PROGRESS adapted by Great Commission Publications
- ONE YEAR OF DINNER TABLE DEVOTIONS by Nancy Guthrie
- TRAINING HEARTS, TEACHING MINDS by Starr Meade
- NAMES OF GOD and PROMISES OF GOD by Sally Michael

PARENTING IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

**A TASK
DEPENDENT
UPON
SUPERNATURAL
INTERVENTION
HELP!**

**HOW CHILDREN
RAISE PARENTS :
THE ART OF
LISTENING TO
YOUR FAMILY
BY DAN
ALLENDER**

