

Biblical Encouragement For Moms

January 27, 2013

Plan your work, Work your plan

Having a plan greatly increases your ability to succeed at a task. There is much planning going on today in our world. Think of all the planning that goes into operating a successful business. Whether it is a large **business** or a small one, **someone is following a plan**. Eating right takes a plan that involves shopping for the right foods and practicing self control. Paying off a debt takes planning and self control in the area of spending.



Think about the planning that goes into operating a **hospital**. There are doctors and nurses, janitors, nutritionists, coordinators, cooks, receptionists, researchers, counselors, etc.

Honestly, I find myself doing much of what a hospital does, except on a smaller scale, don't you? I am the doctor and the nurse; working at keeping my family well, taking precautions. I am the janitor; cleaning around our home daily. Yes, I am a nutritionist, checking labels, watching out for high calorie & chemical laden foods, among other things. I am a coordinator, making sure we are aware of each others schedules, and needs, reminding each of us what comes next.

I am the primary cook, desiring that we get variety, in the right proportions, and that we get enough healthy food. I am the receptionist, responding to phone calls, and making them. I am the researcher, working through problems & finding solutions, like saving money on groceries. I also counsel my children from God's Word, and teach them God's principles, along with life skills. And that is not everything.

Our job takes planning. **Your home needs someone to take time to plan and pray.** This will save so much time and stress!! **Read Psalm 90:12.**
“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply ur hearts unto wisdom.”
Now read Psalm 90:17 “And let the beauty of the Lord be upon us, and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us...”

May the work of your hands glorify God. Find a place in your schedule where you can take an hour or two to get organized on paper. Post your plan and work on making the needed changes.

You may have to move a few things around at first, but you can figure it out. People accomplish very little without a plan. Like Psalm 90:12 says, we need to be taught to number our days and use our time wisely. Time soon slips away.

Those who live in dedication to God will *flourish* in their plans. They will reap good fruit in their lives. Their children will benefit. Mothers, **you can grow and flourish** in your plans if you are a woman of prayer, serving God steadily and faithfully.

Let's read Psalm 92:12-15. Your testimony for Christ can be like a healthy, tall palm tree, beautiful to see. Or like a beautiful cedar tree, unwavering and pointing up to God. Don't settle for being a briar bush; press on for Christ's sake!

Get organized with your life. You may have good organization, except in one or two areas. Those areas may stumble your children. ***Let Jesus take control of all areas of your life.***

The title of this lesson is "Plan Your Work, Work Your Plan." I would say many people plan their work, but a lot fewer people work their plan, especially over years. We need to follow through with our plans, year after year.



If you have prayed about your situation, God is more than willing to help you get your plan on paper. ***He wants you to succeed.*** It is truly amazing what you can get done with prayer and a plan.

I have given you some ideas that I have incorporated into our home - on the next page.

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men.”
Colossians 3:23

Remember, these are just ideas, with an important principle attached. I love hearing how other people do things at home.

Our goal has been to raise our children to love the Lord supremely ~ everything revolves around this.

1. We eat around the table almost 100% of the time. Everyone expects it. No toys at the table. We talk and enjoy each other's company. This happens for lunch and dinner. (bonding)
2. Bedrooms were never thought of as negative. We climb in bed with our children and talk, read, sing and pray with them - from 2 years through teen years. (bonding)
3. Children were not belittled. We have combined prayer with careful teaching so that our children learned very young how to follow directions. Never, never give up. Be willing to patiently train until a skill is learned. (respect & perseverance)
4. Stop and pray when problems arise – and they will. Teach children to go to God, rather than worry or become angry. (prayer & trust)
5. Do not overindulge in food. This will help them learn not to indulge with other areas that can get out of control. Make careful, healthful choices when you can. (self control)
6. Listen when your children talk. Show them your attention as often as possible. Ask them questions, and show you care about their thoughts. (respect)
7. Involve your children in your plans for saving money. They will get creative! Look for bargains together. You will rejoice together and they will sense your appreciation. (gratitude)
8. When someone calls you, emails you or otherwise takes your time, be aware if your child is waiting for you for a scheduled project, a meal, a prayer, etc. Graciously finish your conversation and get back to your child. (love)
9. When you have done wrong, admit it. Children learn very young if you cover up your sin; and if you are a hypocrite. (honesty)
10. Hug your children and reassure them of your love throughout the day, in tangible ways. Remember the unfailing love of Jesus, always ministering to the needs of others. (selfless)

Now, plan your day around ministry for your family, and ultimately for Christ.

A balance of **listening,**

teaching,

cleaning,

and cooking

(Read Colossians 3:23)

~ covered and filled with love and prayer. It is beautiful, and it can be done. You will be surprised at the unplanned blessings that will come your way! *The Lord will give you little pockets of time for those special things...*

Calvary Baptist Church
Sauk City, Wisconsin
saukprairiecalvary.com