

## Biblical Encouragement for Moms

January 6, 2013

# Sowing and reaping a harvest at Home

Our homes are like gardens.....

The way our children grow has a lot to do  
with how we tend to them.

A garden left to itself, is full of weeds, and hardened. A child left to his own decisions, will neglect the important things in life. Mothers, let's find fulfillment in sitting down and tending to our garden (children). Pulling weeds? Yes. **Children will need us to teach them that some things in life choke out God's better plan.**

Watch out for big time commitments. You need that time with your children, to prepare them to be godly, productive adults.

Weeds come in many forms. It can be too much TV, too much time spent away from home, or too many books that feed fleshly selfishness, among other things. **Be alert to the time your children are spending in any one area.** Tend to your garden of children well. *Don't let a weed get too tall, or you will find it very hard to remove...*

A beautiful garden can become infested by bugs. Bugs may be small, but together, they can eat away at a very healthy plant. Even one bug can do a lot of damage. I think of this when I see a child with ungodly friends. Even one ungodly friendship can do a lot of damage! Beware! The little bug may not be noticed for awhile. Mothers need to pay close attention to dangerous relationships. They can creep in quietly at first. They can eat

away at the conscience of a child and defile him.  
Help your children carefully choose their friends. *Watch out for garden pests!*

Gardens need watering. The best watering you can give a child is prayer. You cannot pray too much for a child. Prayer is a way you can water their **heart**, like an underground watering system. When God sends down rain, it has just the right amount of nutrients for a garden to thrive. When you allow God to work through prayer, it will be God working in the minds of your children, with just the right amounts of conviction, faith, and knowledge.

Just like we cannot bring the lush results like God can with rain water for our gardens, we cannot reason with our children with our own words enough to **bring forth the lush fruit** God can.

As we **sow the seed of the Word of God** into the hearts of our children we will undoubtedly reap some good results. But if we do not sow any seed of God's Word, the enemy will **sow something else**, with his many methods of getting your children's attention.

How can you sow the seed of the Word of God into your children's hearts? By reading the Bible to them – a couple verses every night (or more), and discussing it. Like Matthew 6:19-21 where the Bible teaches us not to store up treasures on earth, but to store up treasures in Heaven. Read this to your children and teach them to invest their lives in God. This will send their treasures up to Heaven, where they can never decay or be taken away. What a great investment to instill in your children! Sow much good seed in the lives of your children. If you need some ideas, here are a few for you to ponder.

These are all Bible principles:

1. Keep a cheerful attitude. (Proverbs 15:15)
2. Choose friends who are wise. (Proverbs 13:20) (I Cor. 15:33)
3. Trust God with our life. He is a shield for you. (Proverbs 30:5)
4. Come to God with all your burdens. (Psalm 55:22)
5. The fullness of joy comes from God only. (Psalm 16:11)
6. God's Word is very pure & can be trusted. (Psalm 12:6)
7. God will not forsake someone who seeks after Him. (Psalm 9:10)
8. By God's wisdom was the world created. ( Proverbs 3:19)

The Bible is full of wonderful principles to teach our children. Dig in and find them. **Read II Corinthians 9:6** Model what you teach.

*“ But I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly: and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. ”*

This verse reminds us to sow into the lives of our children many wonderful character qualities. Be a woman of prayer and **commitment to God**. Serve Him day after day, and reap a great harvest in your children. **(A beautiful garden!)** Once a week at Church is not enough, but it is a good start. Sow the fruit of God's Word throughout the week, in natural ways. **Read Galatians 5:22**.

*“Being filled with the **fruits of righteousness**, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.” Philippians 1:11*

*How are you doing with your garden?  
Be careful not to neglect it.*