Biblical Encouragement for Moms July 14, 2013 Building Respect in the Home

Teaching children respect will bring the greatest of joy to your home. The younger you teach it, the better. However, you will reap great results at any age if you teach it properly. This lesson is all about the "how tos" of teaching respect in your home.

First of all, spend a week in prayer before you begin your "Respect Project." Ask the Lord to give you key scripture, and a surrendered heart as you teach your children.

Ask God to prepare the hearts of your children.

In order to teach respect, you must first show respect.

- 1. No name calling or put downs. No embarrassing them in front of others. See Proverbs 29:11 Do not say everything you think. This is foolish and destructive.
- 2. Do not emphasize their weak points, but encourage them in their strong areas. See Proverbs 17:27 "He that hath knowledge spareth his words, and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit." Think and pray before you comment on a weak point. Choose your words carefully.
- 3. Be a godly mentor. Tell them the truth about their areas of need, but always have a kind word of encouragement with an idea to strengthen them. See Proverbs 27:9 Your counsel can be like a sweet perfume, if you are led of the spirit of God. See

Proverbs 25:11 God can give you the words to speak to your children, in all areas. Don't spread their problems to others. Instead, pray for them.

See Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." You encourage and sharpen your children by encouragement, and truthfulness, as you would a good friend. Proverbs 16:6 is thought provoking for mothers.



"By mercy and truth, iniquity is purged, and by the fear of the Lord, men depart from evil."

Showing mercy and being truthful is extremely important and results in peace with God. Being harsh is not going to bring about the purging of sin.

4. Give them a kind word publicly, and build a strong relationship by loving and **preferring them** daily, not because they deserve it, but because you love God and your children. Be patient as you teach. "Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop, but a good word maketh it glad." Proverbs 12:25.

See also Proverbs 10:18 Careful speech. "He that uttereth a slander is a fool." That includes speaking about your children.

5. Choose their comforts over your own. Remember Luke 6:31.

"As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise."

This shows children that you care about them deeply. You are genuine. This builds respect.



These five principles will build a foundation for respecting you and ultimately, God and others. As you teach your children under these circumstances, they will listen. They will respect what you have to say.

You will have freedom to train your children in the way God has led you.

Areas you will want to include in your teaching them respect:

thankfulness being a servant, joyfully prayerfulness giving, out of love taking responsibility speaking in grace and kindness taking correction patiently



There are many scriptures on these topics. Dig in and find them. Enjoy the study, then pass it on to your children. They are your main mission in life. Refer to last week's lesson for how respect affects every area of life.

Lastly, be very aware of your children's friendships. Wrong friends will tear down all your careful teaching, no matter how good it is. Pray fervently for their protection and be alert. You will find the Lord giving you clear instructions as you have a strong relationship with Him.