

Biblical Encouragement for Moms

July 7, 2013

Teaching Children Respect

Respect is a character quality to be taught at a very young age. When a child begins walking, teach the little one to put his toys away. Do not lead him into another activity until he respects property and puts it in the proper place. You can teach your children to be organized.

Respect of property is important every day of your life, no matter what your age. If your children are older, you can still teach them to respect property. Teach them where you want something stored and be consistent with putting it there.



It is not a matter of how much a certain item costs. Children need to be taught to take care of something borrowed. Give it back in the same condition. Children can be taught to be very careful. *This process starts with you.* You are the example. If you are married, it's you and your husband that they are watching. Are you careful with your own belongings and with things you have borrowed? You must not take this lightly, or your children will have a reputation of being careless too. Teach your children, by example to respect other's property.

Children also must be taught to respect other people's time. *They need to accomplish the job assigned to them within a certain time frame, and be on time for appointments, Church services, and special events.* This also is a matter of respect.

Teach them not to waste other people's time. Cancelling because they are tired is a bad habit. Be a good example for them here. Go the extra mile, organize and be on time. It is a common courtesy. Never cover up and lie to get out of an appointment. This is common and is disrespectful. If you want God's blessing on your home, teach respect of time. This is valuable and important for the next generation to learn.

Teach your children to respect God's House. Sit quietly. Listen carefully. God has something to teach all of us. Even small children can pick up *some* of what is being said.

Teach them at home by reading together without talking. Pray together every day. When they see the Bible opening, teach them to be so very quiet. This is teaching respect .

Here are some scriptures to help us in teaching respect :

Respect your parents ~ Ephesians 6:1-2
Hebrews 12:9
Deuteronomy 5:16



Respect your pastor & those in authority ~
I Thessalonians 5:12-13
Hebrews 13:17

Respect God above all else ~ This is the most important topic of respect. In the Bible the phrase “fear of the Lord” is often used. This includes a healthy respect, but is so much more. **Proverbs 1:7** tells us **“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”** This reverence of God includes remembering that He is holy and righteous and respecting that fact be the way we live in obedience to Him. This includes a healthy fear of judgment. Truly respecting God has a huge impact on our life. **Deuteronomy 6:5** tells us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength! This is showing great honor and respect.

Respect for others ~ **I John 4:20** is a good place to start when teaching this principle. “If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar, for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?” Loving and respecting God will affect how we love and respect others. It has to be more than words. It must be evidenced in our lives. See James 2:8, Matthew 7:12, Luke 6:31.

As we teach our children respect, it will touch every area of their lives.

Examples:

Common courtesy of older people

A loving marriage

Caring to help someone in need

Being gentle with small children who cry

Showing patience when you are driving

Respecting laws and policemen

Appreciating parent's hard work

Being thankful for little things

Using resources wisely

Respecting life itself

Respect is missing in much of our society. This is one reason we have so much depression and hatred among children. Let's carefully and prayerfully teach respect and model it as parents. It will make such a difference in your home!

“And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.”

Respect is a fruit of righteousness, and it brings great rewards, one of them being peace with God and yourself.

Show respect and teach respect.



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