

Biblical Encouragement for Moms

September 16, 2012

Topic Three - She has learned how to say “no”
to her children, and does not
give in to whining.

We make it worthwhile to whine when our children eventually get their way, by pushing our emotions to the limit.

Children are naturally self centered. They are in need of our careful correction and loving direction.

Proverbs 29:15 says “A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.” It is a big mistake to allow children to make all their decisions. A child is not equipped to make wise and godly judgments in life. He needs your limitations put upon him, or he becomes a “wild pony,” out of control. The best behaved children have been taught limitations, carefully, and lovingly.

Your teaching, if it is to be effective, must flow out of time spent with God and His Word. Short cuts and a haphazard life will show up in your children. You can't fool God...or your children.

As you take time to explain your reasoning for their limitations, they will become less and less frustrated. Get away in a quiet place to teach your children. Get away from TV's, electronics, and anything that would distract them. Slow down and teach them a little more every day. Tell them if they whine for something, rather than ask, they are sinning. Tell them to patiently ask and you will patiently answer the way God leads you, as a Mother.

A lot of crying and exasperation comes with a fast paced life. No time, no patience. Let's turn to Proverbs 25:28 (Wait, then read.)

“He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down and without walls.” A city without walls was not safe in Bible times. The enemy was able to get in and destroy the city.

If we do not have self control with our children, we break down natural walls of protection. It may start with name calling, disrespect, then threats and shoving them, and after awhile you could fall into physical abuse, or abuse of some kind.

We can cause our children to be edgy and insecure because they do not know from day to day what mood we are in. Get prepared daily to become a Mom that is led by the Spirit of God. Live in excellence for your family.

I see a Bible pattern to live by in Psalm 145:8. Let's turn there.

(Wait, then read.) “The Lord is gracious,
full of compassion,
slow to anger,
and of great mercy.”

That passage is a good illustration of what it looks like to have a “rule” over our spirit. Without self control, sought out from God, our homes will be broken down, as well as our personal lives.

When you get tired of the pressure, and give in when you know you should not, you register a message in their brain to try this method again.

Much better it would be to seek God's wisdom in the morning, and prayerfully, all day long. God's patience and direction would prepare you for situations like this.

Now, turn the table. The parent can be like a city that is broken down and without walls. In fact, the child can be ruling over the parents.

The child can be crying inside for some attention and direction - without walls, having no protection from the parent. It is more and more common that parents say “ I just let my child make his own decisions.”

Children really do want limits. It brings security to their lives. Children were not made to bear the burdens of the world. They need godly parents to show them the benefits of living a life for Christ.

Mother, don't “blow up” and give in to your children. Walk in peace, and say what you mean the first time. Place some walls of protection, and be consistent. This will grow contentment in the lives of your children, and the peace we all desire.

“Through wisdom is a house builded, and by understanding it is established.”
Proverbs 24:3

Godly children don't happen just by observation of their parents. They need to be *shaped, day by day in the ways of the Lord*. By wisdom, tailored to them from God.

How can we get started imparting wisdom to our children? I have a few practical ways that I would like to share with you.

1. As with whining, do not “condition” your children to getting everything they want. Plan to balance their life with a series of “nos,” explaining *why* in a relaxed voice. Please do not hurry with this.

Do not get discouraged. Show your children love - by reading to them, playing with them, etc. Help them appreciate the simple things in life.

2. Pray over your children with scripture, to break some bad patterns in their lives. Children form bad habits and must have the divine guidance of God to move forward in God's plan. Pray over them in this way when they are sleeping. Below are three scriptures to help you get started.

Insert your child's name. I will use my youngest daughter's name.

Heavenly Father, guide Amber in her thoughts today. Give her thoughts of obedience and help her to break away from any selfishness. You tell us “As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he...” (Proverbs 23:7)

Guide Amber's heart in the way of peace and rest. You tell us in Proverbs 29: 17 that we must correct our children if we are to have rest.

Lord, teach me to lovingly, but firmly correct Amber, and she “shall give me rest,” and she “shall give delight unto my soul.” What a tremendous promise!

When Amber becomes self centered, Lord, may she realize her sin. “Create in her a clean heart, and renew a right spirit in her” Psalm 51:10 Keep her heart soft and receptive to the things of God.”

3. Have some “still” times in your home. Demonstrate to your children how to sit or play quietly. This is good preparation for them to practice self control. A good example maybe to sit quietly around the table for dinner. One child should stop and listen to the other, or the parent when they are talking. Listening helps us to think more, and consider the people around us. The Church & Library are quiet places where we practice to be still.

4. Teach your children to stop and praise God often.

When you have an attitude of praise, there is no room for complaining. Mother, you set the tone for this. Thank God and praise God throughout the whole day.

“ My tongue shall speak of thy righteousness, and of thy praise all the day long.” Psalm 35:28

5. Singing is a great way to help focus your children's hearts back on God. Teach them the hymns and sing them around the house. Make little song posters. Sing while you wash dishes. Sing while you prepare food. Let them see you singing about your wonderful God while you work. If you do not know Jesus as your Savior, ask Connie for a personal Bible study on this topic. See Psalm 21:13

In conclusion, you can make the “whining bug” very unprofitable in your home. After awhile, there is no profit in whining. You don’t get your way, you just get a punishment. Let whining die out. They can learn to ask questions and accept the answer you give. This will prepare your children for life - for future jobs and relationships.

Let’s look at one final scripture - a true promise from God.
(Wait, then read.)

“And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.” John 14:13

This reminds us once again, of the importance of prayer. May your home be a house of praise, whining excluded, to the **glory of God.**”